BATMAN
10c
52 BIG PAGES
APR. MAY
NO.70
SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
BATMAN
CAN A MECHANICAL MANHUNTER REPLACE BATMAN AS ACE CRIME-FIGHTER?
Read THE STARTLING STORY OF THE MOST INCREDIBLE POLICEMAN EVER TO WALK A BEAT--
"THE Robot Cop of Gotham City!"

BUZZY says "BE SURE OF YOUR FACTS!"

HAVE SOME POPCORN, FELLOWS! MY UNCLE NED VISITED US AND GAVE ME FIVE DOLLARS!

GEE, THANKS, JIM!

HURRY UP, JIM. YOU'VE GOT THE KEY TO OUR MONEY DRAWER, AND WE WANT TO BUY THAT BASKET-BALL TODAY!

INSIDE...

IT--IT'S GONE! THAT'S FUNNY... I LEFT THE ENVELOPE RIGHT IN THIS DRAWER!

VERY FUNNY! UNCLE NED, HUH? BOY, I BET HE WAS TREATING US WITH *OUR* MONEY!

HERE, TAKE YOUR OLD POPCORN!

IN NO TIME, THE WORD SPREADS AROUND...

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! JIM'S A SWELL KID!

YEAH, BUT HE WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO HAD THE KEY TO THAT DESK! HE *MUST'VE* TAKEN THE MONEY!

IC

PARLOR

ARE YOU SURE? HAVE YOU ANY PROOF? DID ANY OF YOU THINK OF MAKING A SEARCH?

HUH? N-NO, BUT... GOSH, BUZZY, I GUESS WE *OUGHT* TO LOOK AROUND. COME ON, FELLERS!

AT THE CLUBHOUSE..

HEY, LOOK! THE ENVELOPE FELL BEHIND THE DRAWER AND DROPPED INTO THE ONE BELOW!

BOY, ARE WE A BUNCH OF SAPS! AND HERE WE WERE READY TO KICK HIM OUT OF OUR CLUB! SOMEBODY FIND JIM RIGHT AWAY!

DO YOU SEE HOW BAD IT IS TO JUMP TO QUICK CONCLUSIONS? YOU CAN RUIN A PERSON'S LIFE BY SPREADING FALSE RUMORS! NEXT TIME, CHECK YOUR FACTS!

LATER...

OH, BOY, I'LL SAY!

OKAY, LET'S FORGET IT...WE ALL LEARNED SOMETHING FROM IT, ANYHOW!... AND NOW, ANYBODY WANT SOME OF THAT POPCORN?

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BATMAN WITH ROBIN -THE BOY W

EVER THINK THE MACHINE AGE WOULD CATCH UP WITH **BATMAN**? IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE--YET SOMEWHERE IN GOTHAM CITY A MAN FIGURED OUT HOW IT COULD BE DONE! THIS WAS A MAN WHO ONLY WANTED TO DO GOOD BUT WHO, STRANGELY ENOUGH, WAS MORE OF A MENACE TO **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** THAN THE MOST DANGEROUS CRIMINAL AT LARGE! HOW IT HAPPENED--AND WHAT HAPPENED NEXT --YOU'LL FIND IN THE EXCITING AND JAMMED-WITH-SURPRISES STORY CALLED...

"THE ROBOT COP OF GOTHAM CITY"

by BOB KANE

THOSE ARE *REAL* BULLETS, *BATMAN*--YOU'D NEVER HAVE A CHANCE OUT THERE! BUT TO ME THEY'RE A JOKE --HA-HA! THIS LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER JOB FOR THE *ROBOT COP!*

FEATURING THE ALL GIRL REVUE

BIJOU

GOTHAM CITY BANK

ONE MORNING, AS *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN* CONFER WITH COMMISSIONER GORDON AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

MR. WEIR TO SEE YOU, COMMISSIONER...

OH, YES--SEND HIM IN. SUPPOSED TO BE SOMETHING IMPORTANT HE'S INVENTED FOR US...

COMMISSIONER GORDON

PRIVATE

AND WHEN THE VISITOR HAS BEEN SEATED...

I HAVE INVENTED A PRACTICALLY HUMAN *ROBOT!* AN UNCANNY MECHANICAL MAN THAT CAN DO ANYTHING A REAL MAN CAN -- AND MORE! I WANT YOU TO HAVE HIM, COMMISSIONER-- AS A *ROBOT COP!*

ALTHOUGH REMOTE-CONTROLLED, MY ROBOT CAN WALK, TALK, HEAR, FIGHT--DO EVERYTHING. HE'S SO INGENIOUSLY CONSTRUCTED, NO ONE CAN TELL HIM FROM A *REAL MAN!*

OH, COME NOW! AREN'T YOU EXAGGERATING? NO ROBOT COULD BE THAT LIFE-LIKE!

SUDDENLY, IN DRAMATIC ANSWER TO GORDON'S SKEPTICISM, "MR. WEIR" RIPS OFF HIS CLOTHES TO REVEAL A *BODY OF METAL UNDERNEATH!!*

HERE'S YOUR ANSWER, COMMISSIONER! *I AM THE ROBOT!* MY INVENTOR, THE *REAL* MR. WEIR, IS SITTING OUTSIDE AT MY CONTROLS! *NOW* WHAT DO YOU SAY!!

FANTASTIC! UTTERLY FANTASTIC!

A MOMENT LATER...

FANTASTIC--BUT TRUE! HERE IS MY PORTABLE CONTROL--EMBODYING THE LATEST TELEVISION AND ULTRA-ELECTRONICS THEORY. WITH THIS, I CAN MAKE MY ROBOT DO ANYTHING!

IF I DIDN'T SEE IT, I'D NEVER BELIEVE IT!

THINK OF IT, COMMISSIONER--A ROBOT COP! HE'D BE POISON TO THE UNDERWORLD--THEY COULDN'T STOP HIM! IN THE INTERESTS OF PUBLIC WELFARE, I'M OFFERING MY ROBOT TO YOU!

AN INTRIGUING IDEA--IF IT WORKS! WE'LL PUT YOUR ROBOT THROUGH TESTS IMMEDIATELY!

NEXT DAY...

WE'VE SET WEIR'S PERMANENT CONTROL ROOM UP HERE, *BATMAN*, WITH HIS REGULAR EQUIPMENT. WHERE IS YOUR ROBOT NOW, WEIR?

SEE FOR YOURSELF! HE'S DOWNSTAIRS, BEING FITTED FOR HIS POLICE UNIFORM!

LATER...

HE MAKES A GOOD-LOOKING POLICEMAN! NOW LET'S SEE WHAT HE CAN DO! YOU'LL SUPERVISE THE TESTS, *BATMAN*!

RIGHT! OKAY, ROBOT--LET'S GO!

AND, ON THE GROUNDS OF THE POLICE ACADEMY...

HMMM! NOT AS FAST AS *BATMAN* OVER THE OBSTACLE COURSE--BUT REMARKABLY AGILE FOR WHAT HE IS.

YES--HE'D PROBABLY WIN OUT OVER ANY OTHER POLICEMAN ON THE FORCE...

LOOK AT THAT ROBOT DRIVE A POLICE CAR! I DON'T KNOW HOW WEIR DOES IT--EVERY REFLEX WORKS JUST PERFECTLY!

BATMAN WILL WIN THE RACE, OF COURSE--BUT THAT'S NO DISGRACE FOR THE ROBOT!

AND LATER, AT THE PISTOL RANGE...

LOOK AT HIM FIRE! A PERFECT SCORE!

I'VE SEEN ENOUGH! I'M READY TO START THE SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS THAT WILL ENABLE WEIR'S ROBOT TO JOIN *OUR POLICE FORCE!*

BULL'S-EYE!

A FEW DAYS LATER, AT A SPECIAL CEREMONY...

THIS BADGE MAKES IT OFFICIAL! YOU ARE NOW A PATROLMAN IN FULL STANDING.'

OH, COMMIS-SIONER.'

SCREEECH

BAD NEWS, SIR! PATROLMAN HAVER HAS BEEN WOUNDED! THAT WATERFRONT MOB AGAIN.'

HMM! WE'VE LOST SIX MEN ON THAT BEAT THIS YEAR, SERGEANT.' THE NEWSPAPERS CALL IT "DEAD MAN'S BEAT".' WAIT-- I THINK I'VE GOT THE ANSWER.'

I DON'T WANT TO RISK ANOTHER LIFE ON THAT BEAT-- AND I WON'T! FROM NOW ON, THE ROBOT COP WILL TAKE OVER ALONG THE WATER-FRONT.'

A PERFECT SHOT FOR THE ROBOT.' IF HE'S GOT ANYTHING, THIS IS WHERE HE CAN PROVE IT.'

NEXT DAY, ALONG "DEAD MAN'S BEAT"...

LOOK.' A NEW COP ON THE BEAT, JOEY.' LET'S TAKE CARE OF HIM QUICK.'

RIGHT.' I JUST HAPPEN TO HAVE A LITTLE OLD HAND GRENADE WITH ME.' STAND BACK.'

NOW S

IN THE NEXT MOMENT...

JEEPERS.' LOOK-- THE GRENADE WENT OFF RIGHT IN FRONT OF HIM AND HE NEVER BLINKED AN EYE.'

WE'RE GONERS NOW, JOEY.'

BOOM

AND LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

THEY THREW A GRENADE AT ME.' THAT'S AGAINST THE LAW, ISN'T IT?

HAW.' YOU'VE GOT A SENSE OF HUMOR, BOY! NICE WORK! I'LL SEE THAT THE COMMISSIONER HEARS ABOUT THIS.'

NEXT EVENING, IN THE HOME OF SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

STILL CHECKING WEIR'S FORMULA FOR OPERATING THE ROBOT?

YES, DICK. IT'S EXTREMELY COMPLICATED--WILL TAKE SOME TIME. BUT SOMEHOW I FEEL IT'S INCOMPLETE--I WISH I COULD PUT MY FINGER ON IT.'

ABRUPTLY...

WELL--YOU CAN FORGET YOUR PROBLEM FOR NOW! LOOKS LIKE THERE'S URGENT BUSINESS FOR *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN*.'

I'M WITH YOU, LAD! LETS GET INTO OUR UNIFORMS.'

SHORTLY AFTERWARDS...

HURRY, *BATMAN*! CROOKS HAVE TAKEN CONTROL OF THE GOTHAM CENTRAL BRIDGE! THEY'VE USED IT TO TRAP THE "ORLANDIO"--THE NEW LUXURY LINER.'

THE "ORLANDIO"! THAT'S THE NEW GIANT OCEAN LINER MAKING ITS MAIDEN VOYAGE THIS EVENING! IT'S LOADED WITH VALUABLES.'

AND AT THE BRIDGE...

THEY LOWERED THE RAMPS WHILE THE SHIP WAS PASSING THROUGH—NOW THE RAMPS HAVE PINNED THE SHIP AND ARE HOLDING IT HELPLESS! THEY'RE LOOTING IT OF EVERYTHING ON BOARD.'

IT'S A MASS OPERATION! I'VE NEVER SEEN SO MANY ARMED CROOKS WORKING TOGETHER BEFORE.' THEIR FIRE-POWER IS WITHERING.'

WE CAN'T GET NEAR 'EM ON THE WATER--THERE'S A HAIL OF BULLETS EVERYWHERE.'

ROBIN--RACE BACK AND GET THE *BATPLANE*.' IT MAY BE OUR ONLY CHANCE! I'LL KEEP AN EYE ON THINGS HERE.'

THEN, ALL AT ONCE...

LOOK--IT'S THE ROBOT! HE'S *SWIMMING* TOWARD THE "ORLANDIO" RIGHT THROUGH ALL THOSE BULLETS!

Z-I-N-G-G

ZING!

Z-I-N-G-G-G

AND MOMENTS LATER, ABOARD THE STRICKEN VESSEL...

GET THAT COP! HOW'D YOU LET HIM GET THIS FAR? KILL HIM!

WE'VE HIT HIM WITH EVERYTHING, BUT HE KEEPS COMIN'! I NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT!

RAT-TAT-TAT-TAT--TAT

THEN...

THAT COP AIN'T *HUMAN*! I'M GETTIN' OUTA HERE!

MEANWHILE...

HE'S *ROUTED THEM*! QUICKLY--BOTTLE UP BOTH ENDS OF THE BRIDGE--GET ALL OUR BOATS INTO THE WATER TO STOP THOSE WHO TRY TO SWIM AWAY! THEY'RE *FINISHED NOW*!

THEN...

ROBIN TO *BATMAN*! *ROBIN* TO *BATMAN* HAVE ARRIVED WITH *BATPLANE*--WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS? OVER!

OVER IS RIGHT, *ROBIN*! IT'S ALL OVER HERE! WE WON'T NEED THE *BATPLANE*, THANKS TO THE ROBOT POLICE-MAN!

AND NEXT DAY, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

YOU'RE TOO VALUABLE A MAN TO BE CONFINED TO A PATROLMAN'S BEAT, ROBOT! FROM NOW ON, YOU'LL WORK HAND IN HAND WITH *BATMAN*!

THANK YOU, SIR! THAT'S AN HONOR I HAD BEEN HOPING FOR!

AND A FEW DAYS LATER, ON THEIR FIRST ASSIGNMENT TOGETHER...

I MUST ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT IT'S WEIR WHO'S DOING THE TALKING FOR HIM...

WELL, COME ON! WE'VE A TIP THAT FATS DENNY IS USING THE OLD BANGOR CASTLE AS HIS HIDEOUT...

I LIKE WORKING WITH YOU, *BATMAN*-- IT WILL GIVE ME THE CHANCE TO PROVE I'M THE BETTER *LAW-MAN!* THEN THE *WHOLE WORLD* WILL HONOR ME!

SUDDENLY, AS THE GROUND GIVES WAY UNDER THE TWO CRIME-BUSTERS...

THAT'S *GAS!* AND WE'RE TRAPPED DOWN HERE! THIS IS A PRETTY FIX.'

FOR *YOU, BATMAN*-- BUT NOT FOR ME.' REMEMBER-- GAS WON'T BOTHER ME AT ALL.'

MEANWHILE, AT WEIR'S CONTROL ROOM BACK AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

BATMAN'S IN TROUBLE-- BUT WHAT CAN I DO? EVEN IF I NOTIFIED GORDON, POLICE COULDN'T GET THERE IN TIME TO HELP...

NO TIME FOR JOKES! I CAN SHOVE THAT PIPE BACK THROUGH THE CEILING, IF I CAN REACH IT.' COME ON, ROBOT-- I'LL NEED YOUR MUSCLES! I *WANT YOU TO TOSS ME TO THE CEILING!*

FOLLOWING *BATMAN'S* INSTRUCTIONS, THE ROBOT TOSSES THE INTREPID LAW-MAN TO THE CEILING WHERE, IN A SPLIT-SECOND...

JUST AS I THOUGHT.' LOOSE ENOUGH TO BE PUSHED BACK --NOW THERE'S NO WORRY ABOUT GAS.'

QUICK THINKING, *BATMAN!* BUT RE-MEMBER-- I GET AN ASSIST ON THIS-- WITHOUT ME, YOU COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT.'

AND LATER...

HA! *BATMAN'S* CLEVER-- BUT SO IS MY ROBOT! CLEVER AS ANY HUMAN, BECAUSE HE *IS* HUMAN.' HE IS *ME*--*ME*, IN AN-OTHER BODY! HA-HA.'

C'MON, BOYS-- IT WORKED! LET'S DRAG *BATMAN* AND THAT COPPER OUT.'

THEN, ONCE OUT OF THE GAS-CHAMBER...'

WE'VE BEEN TRICKED-- THEY'RE NOT DEAD.'

NO-- BUT WE'VE GOT YOU *DEAD TO RIGHTS.'*

BOP!

THAT EVENING, AFTER DENNY AND HIS MEN HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO JAIL...

IT'S UNCANNY! WEIR'S EGO HAS GOTTEN THE BETTER OF HIM. HE ACTUALLY THINKS OF HIS ROBOT AS BEING ALIVE! ALL HE'S OUT TO DO IS PROVE THE ROBOT IS BETTER THAN I!

WELL--FROM WHAT I'VE SEEN, YOU'VE GOT TOUGH COMPETITION AHEAD! I *WOULD* PICK THIS TIME TO SPRAIN MY ANKLE! NOW I'M OUT OF ACTION FOR A WHILE!

OPERATION ROBOT

NEXT DAY, AS *BATMAN* AND THE ROBOT RESUME THEIR WAR AGAINST CRIME...

THEY MAY BE ON THE LEDGE, TOO--AROUND THIS CORNER! WE DON'T WANT TO WALK INTO A TRAP. IF WE HAD A STICK, WE COULD POKE YOUR CAP OUT AND SEE IF IT DRAWS BULLETS!

OH, THAT'S TOO OLD A TRICK, *BATMAN*--I CAN DO BETTER THAN THAT! WATCH!

THEN, BEFORE *BATMAN'S* AMAZED EYES, THE ROBOT METHODICALLY UNSCREWS ITS HEAD FROM ITS BODY--AND...

NO BULLETS! I GUESS WE CAN PROCEED! NOT A BAD STUNT, EH, *BATMAN*? ANOTHER ONE YOU CAN'T DO!

AND, AS DAYS PASS...

THAT'S RIGHT, *BATMAN*--JUST STICK IN MY SHADOW AND THE BULLETS CAN'T HIT YOU! BUT WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF I WEREN'T HERE?

IT'S THAT *ROBOT COPPER*! HOW CAN YOU BEAT *HIM*?!

THEN, ONE DAY, AS THE UNDERWORLD STRIKES BACK AT THE ROBOT...

BATMAN--I'M HELPLESS! I FORGOT THAT MY METAL BODY COULD BE STOPPED BY A *MAGNET*! I CAN'T MOVE--AND THEY'RE TAKING ME AWAY!

HOLD ON! THE *BATPLANE'S* NEARBY!

MOMENTS LATER, ONE OF THE WEIRDEST DOGFIGHTS IN AERIAL HISTORY TAKES PLACE IN THE SKIES OVER GOTHAM CITY!

THEY'RE NOT VERY GOOD PILOTS! IT'LL BE EASY TO FORCE THEM DOWN!

ZOOM

LATER, AFTER *BATMAN'S* SKILLFUL FLYING FORCES THE CROOKS INTO A LANDING.'

YOU'D BETTER LINE YOUR BODY WITH ANTI-MAGNETIC METAL OR SOMETHING LIKE THIS WILL HAPPEN AGAIN.'

I WILL, *BATMAN*--DON'T WORRY! AND THANKS! YOU SAVED ME--NOW I OWE *YOU* ONE!

NEXT DAY...

WHAT HAPPENED? YOU SEEMED TO GO COMPLETELY STILL FOR A MOMENT.'

I DID! SORT OF BLACKED-OUT.' MUST HAVE BEEN A POWER FAILURE BACK AT MY CONTROL.'

FREE PUBLIC HEALTH EXAMINING DISEASE

LATER, AS *BATMAN* AND THE ROBOT FOIL A JEWEL ROBBERY...

THEY SMASHED THE WINDOW WITH THIS BOWLING BALL--WE'LL NEED IT AS EVIDENCE! HERE--YOU HOLD IT WHILE I GO AFTER THEM. IT'S HEAVY--WOULD GET IN MY WAY!

NONSENSE! WHY SHOULD I MISS OUT ON THE FUN? HERE--I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT TO DO WITH IT.'

IN THE NEXT MOMENT, THE ROBOT BARES HIS METALLIC CHEST AND PUSHES A TINY BUTTON!

HERE'S WHERE WE CAN KEEP THE BALL--A SPECIAL COMPARTMENT FOR EMERGENCIES! HA-HA! YOU MAY HAVE YOUR UTILITY BELT, *BATMAN*--BUT I HAVE A FEW TRICKS OF MY OWN! NOW--LET'S RUN DOWN THOSE CROOKS!

MOMENTS LATER, THE CROOKS MEET THEIR DOOM AS *BATMAN* AND THE ROBOT CLOSE IN! AND, AS DAYS PASS, THE ROBOT COP CARVES NEW HONORS FOR HIMSELF.

FOOLS! THROWING *ME* OVERBOARD WITH A WEIGHT ATTACHED! I *CAN'T* DROWN! NOW TO SAVE *BATMAN*--I OWE HIM THIS ONE.'

A FLAME-THROWER, INDEED! IT MIGHT STOP OTHERS, *BUT IT CAN'T STOP ME.'*

NOW THEY'RE TRYING TO RUN ME OVER! WON'T THOSE CROOKS EVER LEARN?!

ONE DAY, IN THE GOTHAM CITY TRIBUNE...

TRIBUNE

HAS THE ROBOT COP REVOLUTIONIZED CRIME FIGHTING?

THIS IS BATMAN AS WE ALL REMEMBER HIM---THE GREATEST LAWMAN IN THE WORLD!

BATMAN

TRIBUNE

IS BATMAN'S USEFULNESS AT AN END?

ROBOT COP

HAS THE MACHINE AGE CAUGHT UP WITH HIM, TOO? IS THE ROBOT COP HIS LOGICAL SUCCESSOR?

AND AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

THEN THE NEWSPAPERS ARE RIGHT! YOU *DO* PLAN TO RETIRE ME! BUT AREN'T YOU ACTING A LITTLE HASTILY?

BE REASONABLE, *BATMAN*--I'M ONLY THINKING OF YOU! WHY SHOULD I RISK YOUR LIFE ANY MORE WHEN I CAN SEND THE ROBOT OUT TO ACCOMPLISH THE SAME ENDS AT *NO* RISK?

THEN, AS THE PAIR ENTERS GORDON'S OFFICE...

THE *BAT-SIGNAL!* WAY--YOU'RE PUTTING IT IN MOTHBALLS!

WELL--IT'S JUST THAT I NEED A DIFFERENT SIGNAL FOR THE ROBOT. BUT WAIT, *BATMAN*--DON'T FEEL SO BADLY! I'VE GOT A SURPRISE FOR YOU!

AND, AS THE COMMISSIONER LEADS *BATMAN* TO A NEARBY SUITE OF OFFICES...

WE STILL NEED YOU, *BATMAN*-- WE'VE PLENTY FOR YOU TO DO! YOU'LL BE OF INVALUABLE AID IN OUR RESEARCH AND COMPILATION DEPARTMENT. SEE--YOU'LL EVEN HAVE A PRIVATE SECRETARY!

HOWEVER YOU SAY IT, IT ADDS UP TO ONE THING: A DESK JOB! I NEVER THOUGHT I'D COME TO THIS!

LATER, IN THE *BAT-CAVE*...

PUT OUT OF BUSINESS BY A MACHINE! I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT! AND TO THINK THEY WANT ME IN A DESK JOB!

I JUST CAUGHT A POLICE RADIO FLASH. TIM BURKE, THE RADIO REPORTER, TRACKED DOWN "BARKER" DAWES. BURKE WAS CAPTURED, BUT NOT BEFORE HE MANAGED TO TIP POLICE TO THE LOCATION OF THE HIDEOUT!

DAWES IS TRIGGER-HAPPY--THERE'LL BE A LOT OF SHOOTING, SO GORDON HAS SENT THE ROBOT! THE HIDEOUT'S UP ON CLEMSON HILL NEAR MEADOW HOSPITAL...

WAIT A MINUTE! HMM--I KNOW THEY DIDN'T SEND FOR ME--BUT I'VE GOT A HUNCH I OUGHT TO GO OVER THERE ANYWAY! AND I WILL!

LATER, NEAR MEADOW HOSPITAL...

I SMELL SMOKE! LOOK--A FIRE IN THE BASEMENT OF THE HOSPITAL. FIRST THINGS FIRST! I'D BETTER TURN IN THE ALARM!

MEANWHILE, IN THE HIDEOUT OF "BARKER" DAWES, EX-CARNIVAL PITCHMAN NOW A CONFIRMED KILLER...

I SAY WE KILL THIS STOOLIE BURKE NOW, BOSS!

NO! I HAVE TO FIGURE SOMETHING *SPECIAL* FOR A RADIO REPORTER--I HATE EVERY-ONE OF THEM!

THEN, AS A HENCHMAN CALLS DAWES TO A WINDOW...

LOOK, BOSS--IT'S *BATMAN!*

GET YOUR GUNS, QUICK! I WANT EVERY MAN HERE TO PUMP LEAD INTO *BATMAN!*

BOSS--WE GOT HIM--*LOOK!* *WE GOT BATMAN!*

WHY--YOU COLD-BLOODED MURDERERS!

SHUT UP! KEEP YOUR EYES ON *BATMAN*, BOYS! MAKE SURE HE'S NOT PLAYING POSSUM! AND THEN GET READY TO PULL OUTA HERE FAST!

BANG! BANG!

ALL AT ONCE!

BOSS--IT'S THAT *ROBOT COP!*

HA! A LOT OF GOOD YOUR GUNS WILL DO YOU NOW!

HE'S RIGHT. OUR GUNS WON'T STOP THAT *ROBOT!* C'MON--WE'D BETTER MOVE OUT!

BUT BEFORE THE CROOKS CAN MAKE THEIR GETAWAY...

NOT SO FAST, MY FRIENDS! I CAME UP HERE FOR A LITTLE EXERCISE!

THIS IS MY CHANCE! I'LL GO SUMMON HELP--AND SCOOP EVERYBODY AT THE SAME TIME! I'VE GOT THE *STORY OF THE YEAR!*

THEN, UPON HEARING ABOUT *BATMAN'S* MURDER, POLICE AND NEWSPAPERMEN RUSH TO DAWES' HIDEOUT...

WHERE'S *BATMAN*, ROBOT? WHERE'S HIS BODY?

WHY--, COMMISSIONER! DON'T TELL ME YOU DON'T KNOW?!

THEN BEFORE EVERYONE'S ASTONISHED EYES, THE ROBOT REVEALS HIMSELF AS *BATMAN!*

BATMAN! BUT--WHAT *IS* ALL THIS? THE ESCAPED RADIO REPORTER BROADCASTED YOUR MURDER!

I THOUGHT I'D FIND THE ROBOT OUT OF ORDER TONIGHT--AND I DID! SO I CHANGED CLOTHING WITH HIM TO FOOL DAWES! HE PUT UP HIS GUNS WHEN HE THOUGHT THE ROBOT WAS COMING!

LATER, AT HEADQUARTERS...

I REMEMBERED THE ROBOT BLACKED-OUT ONCE NEAR A HEALTH EXAMINATION VAN! I GUESSED THAT THE X-RAY MACHINE IN THAT VAN MIGHT HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE.'

SO TONIGHT YOU FELT THE X-RAY MACHINES IN MEADOW HOSPITAL MIGHT HAVE THE SAME EFFECT--AND THEY DID.' THE ROBOT WAS RENDERED USELESS.'

YES. I PUT THE *BATMAN* UNIFORM ON HIM, PUSHED HIM ALONG AHEAD OF ME TILL DAWES STARTED FIRING...

WELL, THAT DOES IT FOR THE ROBOT! IF HE'S VULNERABLE TO X-RAY, THE UNDERWORLD WOULD SOON TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THAT...

AND AS THE MEN MOVE TO WEIR'S CONTROL ROOM..

UNFORTUNATELY, IF LEAD WERE USED TO INSULATE AGAINST X-RAY, IT WOULD NULLIFY THE REST OF THE ROBOT'S APPARATUS...

CHEER UP, WEIR! YOURS WAS TOO TALL AN ORDER! IT WILL TAKE MORE THAN A MACHINE TO REPLACE *BATMAN*--I FOUND THAT OUT!

TONIGHT *BATMAN* PROVED IN ANOTHER WAY THAT METAL CAN'T REPLACE FLESH AND BLOOD--WHEN HE SAVED COUNTLESS LIVES BY CATCHING THAT HOSPITAL FIRE IN TIME!

RIGHT, *BATMAN*, A HUMAN, WAS ABLE TO *SMELL THE SMOKE AND SPOT THE FIRE*. THE ROBOT FAILED IN THIS. I GUESS WE'LL GO ALONG WITH *BATMAN*--EH!?

THE END

ADVERTISEMENT

GEE! A NEW BOY! SEEMS NICE TOO-
HELLO, I'M PUD!
WE CAN'T UNDERSTAND HIM!
HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO PLAY BALL!
I WISH HE COULD TALK ENGLISH-
WAIT! I'VE GOT AN IDEA!
YOU SAID IT, PAL!
DUBBLE BUBBLE!
YOU CAN'T BEAT FLEER'S DUBBLE BUBBLE FOR FLAVOR THAT LASTS!
DUBBLE BUBBLE BLOWS THE BIGGEST BUBBLES!
FUNNIES, FORTUNES AND FACTS ON EVERY WRAPPER!
FRANK H. FLEER CORPORATION
PHILADELPHIA 41, PENNA

PRIVATE PETE

HENRY BOLTINOFF

GET READY FOR BARRACKS INSPECTION IN FIFTEEN MINUTES, MEN!

-AND MAKE IT SNAPPY, THE COLONEL HIMSELF IS COMING!

AND..

VERY GOOD, SERGEANT. YOU HAVE YOUR MEN WELL DISCIPLINED.

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?

H'LO, COLONEL, TODAY'S SUNDAY AND AT HOME I ALWAYS LIKE TO 'LAZY' AROUND ALL MORNING!

END

CASEY THE COP

HENRY BOLTINOFF

THE SARGE PUT ME ON TRAFFIC DUTY. I'VE NEVER BEEN ON IT BEFORE.

HEY YOU - PULL OVER!

CAN'T YOU SEE THE RED LIGHT -- WHY DID YOU PASS IT?

LET ME SEE YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE!

WHAT A TRAFFIC JAM!

TWEET TWEET

THERE. NOW I'M ALL SET TO DIRECT TRAFFIC TOMORROW!

THE END

ADVERTISEMENT

"NO STICKY HAIR, HANDS OR COMB!" SAYS BERT PARKS
TV STAR OF "BREAK THE BANK"

IT'S HERE! THE NEW CREAM HAIR OIL THAT'S NOT STICKY OR GREASY! GROOMS HAIR PERFECTLY!

DIFFERENT BECAUSE IT'S LIGHT-BODIED.

TRY VITALIS HAIR CREAM — YOU'LL THANK ME FOR THE TIP!

HOMOGENIZED FOR EASY FLOW IN HANDY SHAKER-TOP BOTTLE.

MONEY BACK

write us if you don't agree that it's the best cream tonic ever!

NEW!

VITALIS Hair CREAM

— by Bristol-Myers, makers of famous Vitalis

SAVE MONEY! 49¢ SIZE EQUALS LEADING 59¢ SIZE CREAM OIL! (ALSO IN 27¢ SIZE)

BATMAN With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

BOB KANE

OBSERVE THE SPECIES *BATMAN*, CLASS! ONCE CONSIDERED AN INTELLIGENT LAWMAN, BY OUR STANDARDS HE IS DULL-WITTED AND *OBSOLETE!*

DEFEAT BATMAN

PERHAPS NO ONE HAS RUN UP AGAINST MORE CRIMINAL TYPES THAN HAS THE MASTER LAWMAN, *BATMAN!* AND HOWEVER CLEVER AND DIABOLICAL THEIR SCHEMES, GENERALLY THESE MEN WERE FROM THE SAME MOLD--INFERIOR IN ALL WAYS TO *BATMAN AND ROBIN* THE BOY WONDER! BUT NOW THE SHOE IS ON THE OTHER FOOT! CAN IT BE THAT A CRIMINAL TYPE HAS EMERGED THAT CAN OUTSMART AND OUTFIGHT BATMAN AT EVERY TURN??? THAT'S OUR STORY--AND IT TURNS RED-HOT--WHEN BATMAN MEETS...

"THE MASTERMINDS OF CRIME!"

ONE NIGHT, AS *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN* THE BOY WONDER CONTINUE THEIR NEVER-ENDING VIGIL AGAINST CRIME. .

DOWN THERE, ROBIN! BANK-ROBBERS! LET'S GO!

JEFFERSON NATIONAL BANK

A MOMENT LATER, AS THE LAWMEN CLOSE IN ON ONE OF THE CROOKS. .

LOOK! HE'S DROPPED HIS LOOT!

HE KNOWS HE'S *TRAPPED!* HE PICKED THE WRONG ESCAPE ROUTE! THAT FREIGHT TRAIN HAS HIM BLOCKED OFF!

BUT THEN

WOW! HE WAS CARRYING A TELESCOPIC POLE WITH HIM--AND LOOK AT HIM *POLE-VAULT!*

AN INCREDIBLE FEAT--WORTHY OF AN OLYMPIC CHAMPION..!

AND LATER, AFTER A FRUITLESS SEARCH OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD...

HE MUST HAVE POLE-VAULTED AT LEAST 14 FEET! AND HIS FORM WAS PERFECT!

MMMM! AND WHOEVER DREAMED UP THIS TELESCOPIC POLE WAS NO SLOUCH EITHER! COME ON, ROBIN--I WANT TO TAKE A LOOK AT THAT BANK.

WAREHOUSE

NO ORDINARY BLOW-TORCH WAS USED ON THIS DOOR! I'VE NEVER SEEN A JOB DONE SO NEATLY!

I'M BEGINNING TO SMELL REAL TROUBLE, BATMAN! WE APPEAR TO BE UP AGAINST A VERY EFFICIENT ORGANIZATION!

NEXT EVENING...

THERE'S THE JEWEL THIEF, BATMAN! LET'S CLOSE IN ON HIM QUICKLY!

ALL AT ONCE...

LOOK, ROBIN! ANOTHER RARE ATHLETIC FEAT! THAT CROOK HAS BROAD-JUMPED NEARLY 20 FEET WITH ALL HIS CLOTHES ON!

HE'LL GIVE US A GOOD CHASE, ALL RIGHT-- WE HAVEN'T HAD ONE LIKE THIS IN YEARS!

OF COURSE, WE CAN DO A LITTLE BROAD-JUMPING OURSELVES WHEN THE OCCASION CALLS FOR IT!

OH-OH--HE'S BLUNDERED! HE WAS SO INTENT ON WATCHING US, HE'S TANGLED HIMSELF IN A TELEVISION ANTENNA!

AND MOMENTS LATER, A TERRIFIC SLUGFEST SWAYS ACROSS THE ROOF!

BATMAN'S GOT HIS WORK CUT OUT FOR HIM! I'VE NEVER SEEN A CROOK LAST THIS LONG IN A FIGHT WITH BATMAN!

BUT FINALLY...

HMMM! HE PUT UP QUITE A FIGHT--HE'S IN SUPERB CONDITION FOR A CROOK! LET'S GET HIM DOWN TO HEADQUARTERS FOR A LITTLE QUESTIONING!

AND LATER, IN POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...

HE WON'T TALK AT ALL, BATMAN! ALL WE KNOW IS THAT HIS NAME'S DAVE GREGG AND THAT THERE'S NO RECORD OF PREVIOUS ARRESTS..

ONE MORE THING, COMMISSIONER. THE POLICE PSYCHIATRIST JUDGES THIS MAN'S I.Q. TO BE AROUND 135-- WHICH IS HIGHLY ABOVE NORMAL INTELLIGENCE!

THE BRAINS OF A ***PROFESSOR*** AND THE BODY OF AN ***ATHLETE*** -- IN AN ***ORDINARY*** JEWEL THIEF! AND APPARENTLY THERE'S MORE THAN ONE! YOU'RE RIGHT, ROBIN-- WE ***ARE*** UP AGAINST A VERY EFFICIENT ORGANIZATION!

THAT VERY MOMENT, IN AN OUTLYING SECTION OF GOTHAM CITY...

MR. TOLAN--THE THREE NEW APPLICANTS FOR THE ACADEMY HAVE ARRIVED. THEY'RE IN YOUR OFFICE...

OKAY-- I'LL GO UP IN A MOMENT..

LATER...

WHEN YOU JOIN THE ACADEMY, YOU JOIN THE GREATEST CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION IN THE WORLD! FOR WE KNOW THE SECRET THAT MAKES *CRIME PAY!* COME-- I'LL SHOW YOU!

AND IN A DARKENED PROJECTION ROOM, THE ARRIVALS GAZE AT AUTHENTIC MOTION PICTURES...

WHY WAS THIS CROOK CAUGHT? BECAUSE HE WAS CLUMSY AND SLOW! NOT IN CONDITION! HE HAD A GOOD START ON BATMAN-- BUT HE FRITTERED IT AWAY! HE SHOULD HAVE CLEARED THAT FENCE WITH EASE!

SAY-- THAT'S THE F.B.I. HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON, ISN'T IT?

YES! HERE, THE CREAM OF AMERICAN MANHOOD IS TAUGHT HOW TO FIGHT AGAINST CRIME! THEY'RE TRAINED WELL-- SCIENTIFICALLY AND INTELLIGENTLY! THEY'RE SMART-- STRONG--AND TOUGH!

BUT THE AVERAGE CROOK IS JUST THE *OPPOSITE!* HE DOESN'T KEEP IN TRAINING-- HE DOESN'T STRIVE FOR KNOWLEDGE-- HE KNOWS NOTHING OF SCIENCE! NO WONDER SO MANY ARE CAUGHT!

BUT HERE AT THE ACADEMY, IT'S *DIFFERENT!* WE TAKE THE SAME APPROACH TO CRIME AS THE F.B.I. TAKES TO CRIME-BUSTING! WE TOO TAKE ONLY THE CREAM OF MANHOOD-- AND TRAIN THEM WELL-- SCIENTIFICALLY AND INTELLIGENTLY!!

AND, AS TOLAN TAKES THE THREE "HOPEFULS" ON A TOUR OF INSPECT ON...

ALL THESE MEN, LIKE YOU, HAVE I.Q.'S OF OVER 135! THEY'RE ALL ATHLETES! THEY COULD BE F.B.I. MEN, OR ARMY OFFICERS, BUT THEY CHOSE CRIME!

GUNS ARE RISKY! WE TRY TO AVOID USING THEM. BUT IF WE HAVE TO, WE DON'T MISS-- JUST AS F.B.I. MEN DON'T MISS!

LIKE MANY MODERN ENTERPRISES, THE ACADEMY IS ENTIRELY A COOPERATIVE VENTURE. WE SHARE AND SHARE ALIKE. EACH YEAR A NEW LEADER IS SELECTED. MY TERM OF OFFICE EXPIRES SOON...

DAILY VITAMIN REQUIREMENTS LISTED BELOW EACH MAN MUST CO

BATMAN IS, OF COURSE, OUR ARCH-ENEMY! BUT WE'RE GIVING HIM A GOOD RUN FOR HIS MONEY. AND ULTIMATELY, WE SHALL DISPOSE OF HIM! EVEN NOW WE ARE WORKING UP A ***MASTER PLAN*** TO ACCOMPLISH THIS END!

AND WHAT OF THE GREAT LAWMAN, BATMAN?? HAS ***HE*** A MASTER PLAN TO COPE WITH THIS NEW THREAT???

OUR FIRST BREAK, BATMAN! THIS IS MRS. MARCY. HER SON, BEN, LEFT HOME, SAID HE WAS JOINING THE ARMY. BUT SHE SPOTTED HIM AS ONE OF THOSE WHO HELD UP THE BONDED WAREHOUSE LAST WEEK!

I WAS THERE, ON THE STREET! I SAW HIM RUN OUT WITH THE OTHERS! MY OWN SON! (SOB)

CAN YOU GIVE US ANY INFORMATION THAT MIGHT HELP US, MRS. MARCY?

YES! (SOB) GO TO THE ACME GARAGE! SEE A MAN NAMED WEBSTER! MY BEN BECAME VERY FRIENDLY WITH HIM, SHORTLY BEFORE HE LEFT HOME! I WARNED BEN TO STAY AWAY FROM THIS WEBSTER, BUT HE WOULDN'T LISTEN -- (SOB.)

THAT EVENING, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN REVERT TO THEIR ROLES AS BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

SO YOU'RE GOING TO SEE WEBSTER IN DISGUISE!

YES, DICK--AN UNDERCOVER JOB IS CALLED FOR! I'M GOING TO JOIN THIS NEW ORGANIZATION, IF I CAN! AND MY FIRST STEP IS TO DISGUISE MY FEATURES WITH MAKE-UP!

DISGUISES

BUT YOU JUST CAN'T GO AND ASK WEBSTER ABOUT BEN MARCY! HE MAY BE SUSPICIOUS--HE DOESN'T KNOW YOU AT ALL!

HE WON'T HAVE TO, THE WAY I'M PLAYING IT! I'M CALLING ON MR. WEBSTER AT HIS HOME!

AND LATE THAT NIGHT, IN THE HOME OF JOE WEBSTER...

ALL RIGHT, WEBSTER--OUT OF BED! YOU'VE GOT ONE MINUTE TO LEAD ME TO YOUR HIDDEN WALL-SAFE!

A HOLD-UP! BUT HOW DID YOU EVER GET THROUGH MY INTRICATE BURGLAR ALARM SYSTEM?

YOU MEAN YOUR *CLUMSY* BURGLAR ALARM SYSTEM! COME ON, NOW--I'M A BUSY MAN!

BUT YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS! MY WIFE--THE SERVANTS WILL HEAR YOU PHONE THE POLICE! BESIDES, THERE'S NOTHING IN MY SAFE!

YOUR WIFE'S AWAY! IT'S THE SERVANTS' NIGHT OUT! BESIDES, I'VE CUT YOUR PHONE WIRES! AND I HAPPEN TO KNOW YOU'VE GOT TEN GRAND IN YOUR SAFE--YOU ALWAYS KEEP THE PAYROLL THERE, RATHER THAN IN THE OFFICE!

YOU'RE THOROUGH! VERY THOROUGH! AND SMART! YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME ON THIS CHICKEN-FEED, KID--YOU'VE GOT TALENT!

I CAN PUT YOU ONTO SOMETHING GOOD! YOU'D BE A *NATURAL!* AND YOU WOULDN'T BOTHER WITH THE SMALL STUFF--YOU'D MAKE *REAL DOUGH!*

TALK FAST, MISTER! AND YOU BETTER MAKE SENSE!

IT WORKED! I'M IN!

AND NEXT DAY, UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF WEBSTER, *BATMAN* BECOMES A FULL-FLEDGED MEMBER OF THE CRIME ACADEMY UNDER THE NAME OF TOM DREXEL!

SO THIS IS THE ACADEMY! I NEVER DREAMED IT WAS SO AMBITIOUS AN UNDERTAKING!

AND AS DAYS PASS...

I CAN'T BRING THE POLICE IN YET! THERE'S MORE THAN A MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF LOOT HIDDEN SOMEWHERE HERE! I'VE GOT TO PLAY IT LIKE THIS UNTIL I CAN FIND IT!

NEXT MORNING, A SPECIAL MEETING IS HELD IN THE ACADEMY'S ASSEMBLY HALL...

AS YOU KNOW, IT IS TIME FOR A NEW LEADER TO BE SELECTED. AS IS OUR CUSTOM, HE WILL BE SELECTED FROM ONE OF YOU--ON THE BASIS OF AN ALL-AROUND COMPETITION...

THIS IS MY CHANCE! THE LEADER HAS ACCESS TO THE FUNDS! IF I CAN WIN THIS COMPETITION, I CAN BRING AN END TO THE ACADEMY!

DEVOTING ALL HIS ENERGY TO THE COMPETITION, THE DISGUISED BATMAN IS EASILY ONE OF THE OUTSTANDING ASPIRANTS! THEN...

YOU TWO MEN HAVE ELIMINATED ALL THE REST. FROM NOW ON, THIS WILL BE A CONTEST BETWEEN YOU--THE WINNER TO BE OUR LEADER!

THIS FELLOW WALLS HAS SHOWN SURPRISING ABILITY. BUT I SHOULD BE ABLE TO BEST HIM...

BECAUSE OUR MASTER PLAN TO ELIMINATE *BATMAN* CALLS FOR OUR LEADER TO IMPERSONATE HIM, YOU WILL BOTH WEAR BATMAN UNIFORMS DURING THE CONTEST!

I GET IT! YOU WANT TO SEE WHICH OF US CAN HANDLE OURSELVES BEST IN THE STRANGE UNIFORM!

IF THEY ONLY KNEW!

WE'LL IDENTIFY YOU WITH THESE NUMBERS PINNED TO YOUR CHESTS. DREXEL, YOUR NUMBER IS 15--WALLS, YOURS IS 23...

I NEVER THOUGHT *I'D* BE WEARING A BATMAN UNIFORM! HOW ABOUT YOU, DREXEL?

OH, NOTHING EVER SURPRISES ME!

23

15

NEXT DAY THE STRANGE COMPETITION BEGINS--TWO MEN DRESSED AS ***BATMAN,*** VIEING FOR THE LEADERSHIP OF A CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION!

SPEED WILL BE JUDGED ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS--YOU'LL EACH RACE AGAINST THE STOPWATCH! READY, DREXEL! REMEMBER--8 LAPS TO A MILE!

I WON'T GO ALL-OUT--THEY MIGHT GET SUSPICIOUS! I'LL JUST RUN A GOOD FAST MILE--FASTER THAN I IMAGINE WALLS CAN RUN...

THE PISTOL CRACKS--AND OFF BATMAN FLIES! AND A LITTLE MORE THAN FOUR MINUTES LATER...

WOW! FOUR MINUTES, THREE SECONDS FLAT! THE FASTEST MILE WE'VE EVER HAD AT THE ACADEMY!

IF THEY ONLY KNEW WHO THEY WERE CLOCKING!

A CONFIDENT BATMAN SETTLES DOWN TO WATCH WALLS RUN. BUT THEN COMES A STUNNING SURPRISE!

THIS IS AMAZING!! WALLS DID IT IN FOUR MINUTES, TWO AND THREE-FIFTHS SECONDS! ***WALLS WINS!***

MY FIRST MISTAKE! I MUSTN'T UNDERESTIMATE THIS WALLS!

AND AS THE TRACK AND FIELD EVENTS CONTINUE...

WALLS DID IT! HE BROAD-JUMPED INCHES AHEAD OF DREXEL!

THIS IS GETTING SERIOUS! I GAVE THAT BROAD-JUMP ALL I HAD--AND IT WASN'T ENOUGH!

NOW THIS PHONY BATMAN HAS WON THE ***JAVELIN THROW, TOO!*** MY PLAN'S GOING AMISS--FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE, I'VE MET MY MATCH!

AND LATE THAT NIGHT, AS A TIRED AND DISMAYED BATMAN RETURNS TO THE BAT-CAVE...

SO YOU "SNEAKED" OUT OF THE ACADEMY AGAIN FOR A NIGHT! WAIT--WHAT'S THE MATTER ??? I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU SO LOW!

I'VE NEVER ***BEEN*** SO LOW! I'M COMPLETELY DEFLATED, ROBIN!

THEN NEXT DAY, AS THE REAL BATMAN DOGGEDLY REFUSES TO GIVE UP HOPE...

MAYBE I CAN EVEN TH NGS TODAY! WE'RE TAKING *INTELLIGENCE TESTS*-- I SHOULDN'T LOSE ANY OF THOSE!

SOON AFTER, AS THE FIRST TEST BEGINS...

THE FIRST TEST WILL COMB NE MANUAL DEXTERITY AND MENTAL COORDINATION! EACH OF YOU WILL BE GIVEN A GIANT JIGSAW PUZZLE TO PUT TOGETHER! THIS WILL BE A RACE AGAINST TIME!

WALLS

FOURTH 23 TIONAL BANK

DREXEL

15

I'M LOSING AGAIN! THAT WALLS PERSON IS UNCANNY!

TEST AFTER TEST FINDS WALLS THE VICTOR! AND AS THEY CONTINUE...

NOW-- MATHEMATICS! WE WANT TO WATCH HOW YOU USE YOUR SLIDE-RULES-- SO WE'VE HAD THESE GIANT ONES CONSTRUCTED!

BOTH CONTESTANTS ARE GIVEN A PROBLEM! SWIFTLY THEY MANIPULATE THEIR SLIDE-RULES. AND THEN...

THE ANSWER IS 458, TO THE 7TH POWER!

CORRECT! I GUESS THAT DOES IT, MEN! WALLS HAS CLEARLY SHOWN HIS SUPERIORITY! HE'S THE MAN QUALIFIED TO PLAY THE PART OF THE REAL BATMAN!

THE INITIATION CEREMONIES WILL TAKE PLACE TOMORROW.. THEN WALLS WILL BE OUR NEW LEADER. TOUGH LUCK, DREXEL-- BUT YOJ WERE OUTCLASSED!

HE HAD THE RIGHT ANSWER-- BUT COULD NEVER GET IT ON THESE SLIDE-RULES! HE'D NEED AN LL RULE! HE'S TRICKED THEM-- AND ME!

WALLS... REPORT TO OPERATIONS BUILDING! LONG DISTANCE PHONE CALL...

WALLS WON'T HEAR THAT—HE'S IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CAMPUS! I THINK I'LL TAKE THAT CALL-- IT MIGHT PROVE INTERESTING!

EXIT

AND AT THE OPERATIONS BUILDING...

CHICAGO CALLING, WALLS-- TAKE IT IN BOOTH 5..

SIMPLE ENOUGH TO CHANGE NUMBERS ON MY CHEST AND PASS MYSELF AS WALLS!

SURE I WON... JUST NOW!

HMMM-- I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN..

AND THEY NEVER GOT ONTO THE TRICK! HA-HA! I TOLD YA! THE PHONY STOP-WATCH-- THE SPRINGS IN YER JUMPIN' SHOES-- THE JET-POWERED JAVELIN. HA-HA!

AND THAT NIGHT, IN THE BATCAVE...

SO! HE SWITCHED STOP-WATCHES WHEN THE TIMER WASN'T LOOKING! NO WONDER HE RAN SO FAST A MILE! AND NO WONDER HE JUMPED SO FAR, OR THREW THE JAVELIN SO FAR! IT WAS ALL A FRAUD!

YES! AND SO WERE THE INTELLIGENCE TESTS! HE SNEAKED A LOOK AT THEM THE NIGHT BEFORE! BUT THE TROUBLE IS, *I CAN'T PROVE A THING!*

BUT THE MAN ON THE PHONE-- HE TOLD YOU WALLS WAS DOING ALL THIS!

BUT I DON'T KNOW WHO THAT MAN WAS! OUR ONLY CHANCE IS TO FIND SOME OF WALLS' ILLEGAL PROPS! THEN I CAN ACCUSE HIM OF CHEATING WITHOUT BEING HOWLED DOWN! COME ON, ROBIN-- WE'RE GOING TO SCOUT WALLS' ROOM!

BUT LATER...

NO LUCK! WALLS MUST HAVE DESTROYED ALL THE EVIDENCE! WHAT HAPPENS NOW??

YOU'D BETTER GO BACK! I'LL STAY HERE AS DREXEL-- AND HOPE I CAN THINK OF SOMETHING...

NEXT MORNING, IN THE ACADEMY MESS HALL.

DON'T FEEL BADLY, DREXEL! THAT WALLS IS A WONDER! HIS FEATS WERE INCREDIBLE! WHY--HE COULD BEAT ***BATMAN*** IF HE HAD TO!

EMERGENCY ALERT, MEN! WE'VE BEEN TRICKED! THERE'S A SPY AMONG US-- ***BATMAN!!***

IT'S TRUE. WE FOUND A PIECE OF ***UNIFORM*** ON ONE OF OUR FENCES! AND NOT FROM ONE OF OUR ***PHONY*** UNIFORMS! IT'S THE REAL THING! HE MUST HAVE TORN HIS UNIFORM LAST NIGHT, WITHOUT REALIZING IT!

BATMAN-- AMONG US!! SAAAY--WAIT A MINUTE! ARE YOU FELLOWS THINKING WHAT I AM??

WALLS-- WHO ELSE!!? WHO ELSE COULD HAVE PULLED THE FEATS ***HE*** DID--IF NOT ***BATMAN!!?***

AND MOMENTS LATER, IN WALLS' ROOM.

BUT YOU'RE ***CRAZY!*** I'M NOT ***BATMAN! I SWEAR IT!***

GO ON! WE'VE GOT YOU DEAD TO RIGHTS! ***WHO BUT BATMAN COULD HAVE ROLLED UP THE INCREDIBLE SCORE YOU DID???***

LOCK HIM UP! WE'LL SENTENCE THE TRAITOR TO-MORROW AS PER OUR BY-LAWS! DRESS HIM IN HIS MOCK BATMAN UNIFORM!

BUT I ***CHEATED!*** THAT'S HOW I SCORED SO HIGH! ***I CHEATED! I'M BEING FRAMED!***

HA-HA! TELL ME ANOTHER ONE,

I'M SORRY, DREXEL! THE LEADERSHIP OF THE ACADEMY IS RIGHTFULLY YOURS! YOU'LL BE INITIATED AT ONCE!

AND THAT NIGHT, AFTER BATMAN HAS BEEN INITIATED AND LEARNED THE VITAL SECRET HE HAS BEEN SEEKING, INFORMATION AS TO THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE GANG'S LOOT...

THE COPS! WE'RE TRAPPED!

BATMAN'S ESCAPED OUR JAIL! HE MUST BE BEHIND THIS!

MEANWHILE...

GOTHAM CITY JAIL WILL BE SAFER, WALLS! I FEEL RESPONSIBLE FOR YOU--SOME ENRAGED STUDENT MIGHT TAKE A SHOT AT YOU! THAT'S WHY WE'RE GOING THIS WAY!

THEY THOUGHT *I* WAS YOU! BUT I KNEW DIFFERENT! YOU MUST BE *DREXEL*--YOU DOUBLE-CROSSER!

SUDDENLY THE ENRAGED WALLS TURNS INTO A WILD-CAT! A FIERCE BATTLE SWAYS ACROSS THE LEDGE! AND THEN...

SOMEONE HAS WON! *BUT WHO??* I CAN'T SEE FROM HERE!

BATMAN--IS THAT YOU??

A LONE FIGURE DESCENDS SLOWLY FROM THE LEDGE! ROBIN, WAITING TENSELY, SUDDENLY FREEZES AT WHAT HE SEES!

THAT NUMBER! *IT'S WALLS'!* HE'S KILLED BATMAN! HE'S KILLED *BATMAN!*

12

BUT THEN!

TAKE IT EASY, ROBIN! JUST A GAG--IT'S ME! I THOUGHT THESE NUMERALS MIGHT LOOK NICE IN OUR HALL OF TROPHIES!

WOW-- YOU SURE FOOLED *ME!* YOU'VE BEEN FULL OF TRICKS LATELY--LIKE PLANTING THAT PIECE OF BATMAN UNIFORM BECAUSE YOU KNEW EVERYONE'D SUSPECT WALLS! THERE WAS A FELLOW MADE HIMSELF *TOO* GOOD--AND ENDED UP *TOO BAD!*

The End

Can you imagine

BATMAN *and* SUPERMAN TOGETHER ?

BE SURE TO RESERVE YOUR COPY NOW! ON SALE MARCH 7th

SUPERMAN · DC · NATIONAL COMICS

FOR THE GREATEST DOUBLE-FEATURE IN COMICS HISTORY, READ WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THESE MIGHTY ALLIES JOIN FORCES IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF SUPERMAN MAGAZINE!

VARSITY VIC

OH BOY!

IT'S ALWAYS A GREAT RELIEF TO PUT AWAY THE LAWN MOWER, HEDGE CLIPPERS, AND ALL THE OTHER GARDEN TOOLS!

NOTHING TO DO UNTIL NEXT SPRING!

WINTER'S GREAT- NOW I CAN SIT BY THE FIREPLACE AND JUST READ!

OH, VIC!

WHEN YOU FINISH THE FRONT, COME AROUND AND CLEAN THE BACK WALK - AND THE ASHES HAVE TO BE CLEANED OUT OF THE FURNACE!

THE END.

ADVERTISEMENT

OUT OF THIS WORLD by Necco

THE RINGS OF THE PLANET SATURN ARE MADE UP OF COSMIC DUST... BECAUSE THEY ARE VERY WIDE THEY CAST A LARGE SHADOW, YET THEY ARE SO THIN THEY CAN HARDLY BE SEEN WHEN VIEWED "ON EDGE"!

THESE DELICIOUS THIN **Necco** WAFERS ARE ALWAYS IN VIEW WHEREVER GOOD CANDY IS SOLD!

NECCO

DOZEN'S 'N DOZENS 'N EVERY ROLL!

ONE PUNCH WILLIE

REMEMBER YER FIGHTIN' A TRICKY GUY TONIGHT, WILLIE!

AW, HE CAN'T OUTWIT ME!

ROUND 1

EXCUSE ME, WILLIE. DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS?

NO, SLUGGER I DON'T..

..BUT..JEST A SECOND I'LL ASK MY MANAGER. HE'S GOT A WATCH!

FINE!

HEY, WINDY.. DO YOU HAPPEN TO HAVE THE CORRECT TIME FOR SLUGGER HERE?

WOT? LOOK OUT!

BO NG!

OF ALL THE DIMWIT THINGS! I *WARNED* YOU HE'D TRY TO TRICK YOU..

AW, HE WASN'T FOOLIN' *ME*.

AS SOON AS YOU GAVE ME THE RIGHT TIME, I WUZ GONNA TELL HIM THE *WRONG TIME* --AN' FOOL **HIM**!

ADVERTISEMENT

"LUCKY" LUDEN'S and his pal go exploring in a haunted house...

(COUGH - COUGH) JEEPERS! IT'S HATCHET HATTIE THE KID HATER!

1

COUGH HIDE HERE!

2

IN A FLASH - LUCKY LUDEN'S GRABS THE CURTAIN CORD...

3

THAT'S AN UNLUCKY COUGH, LAD! BUT MY HATCHET WILL STOP IT! (CACKLE - CACKLE)

HAVE A LUDEN'S FOR LUCK, PAL - AND REMEMBER, THE KID WHO COUGHS IS THE KID WHO GETS CAUGHT!

4

...AND LASSOES HATCHET HATTIE!

HEY KIDS! FOR GOOD LUCK, EAT

TASTE LIKE REAL CHERRIES - AND SO GOOD FOR YOU, YOU CAN EAT 'EM IN SCHOOL!

LUDEN'S COUGH DROPS

5¢

JERRY

THE JITTERBUG

UMM --

I NEVER GO FOR THIS FORTUNE STUFF, BUT --

WEIGHT & FORTUNE

WEIGHT 150 POUNDS - AND LOOK AT THIS - "TODAY WILL BE YOUR LUCKY DAY - GOOD FORTUNE WILL COME YOUR WAY!"

PHOOEY!

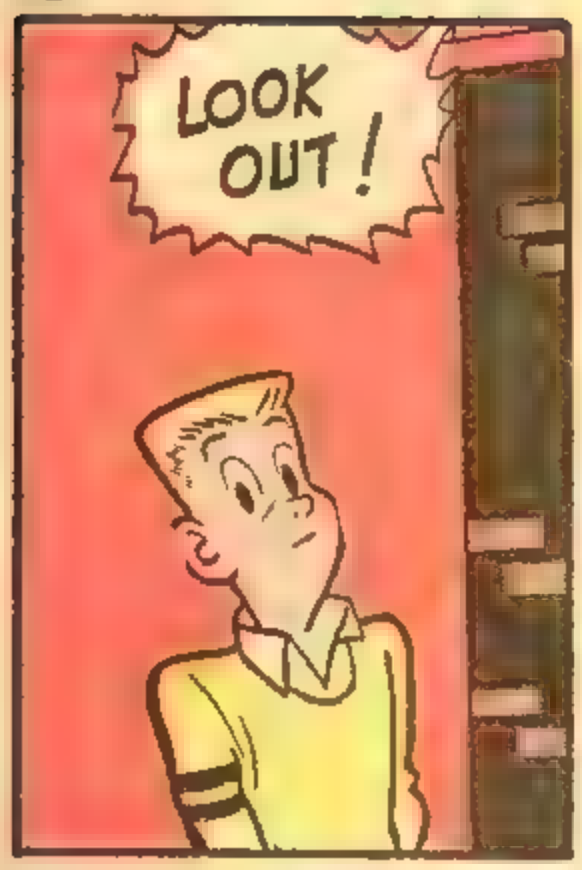
GOLLY, LOOK AT THAT JET PLANE!

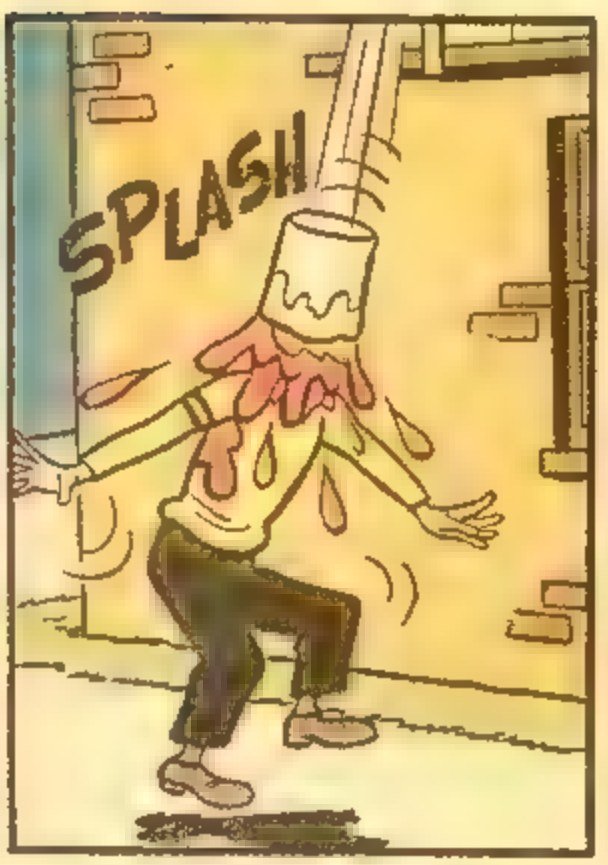
DANG

YEOW

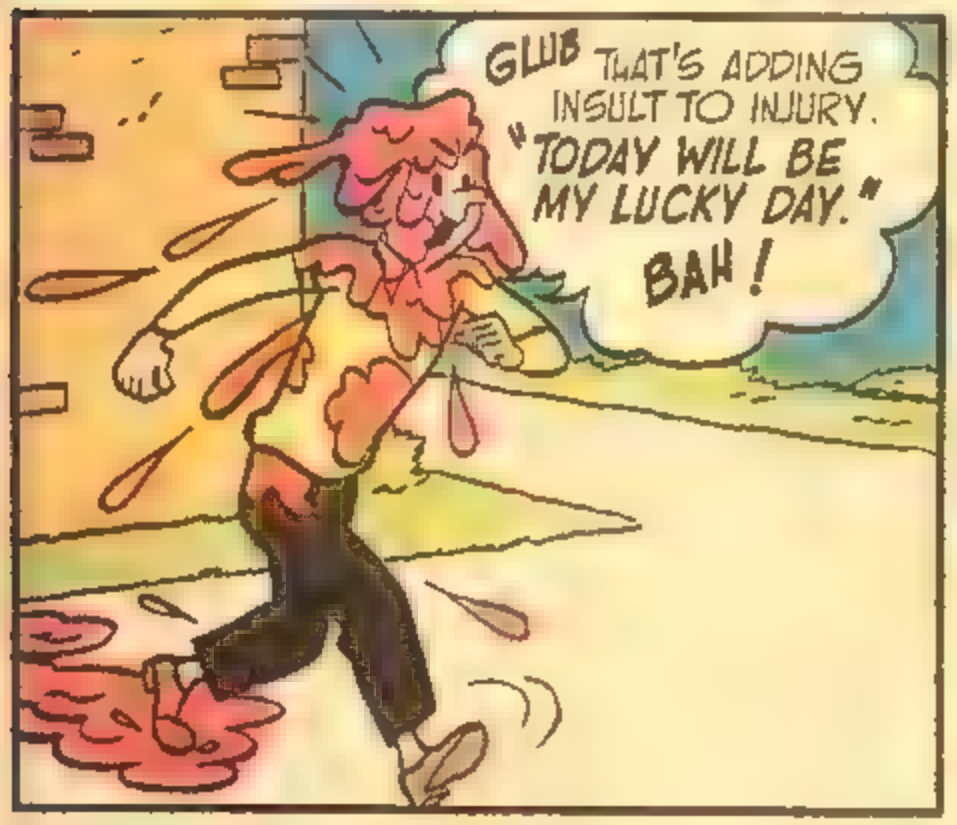
SO THIS IS MY LUCKY DAY PHOOEY AGAIN! ON TOP OF EVERYTHING, JANIE IS MAD AT ME!

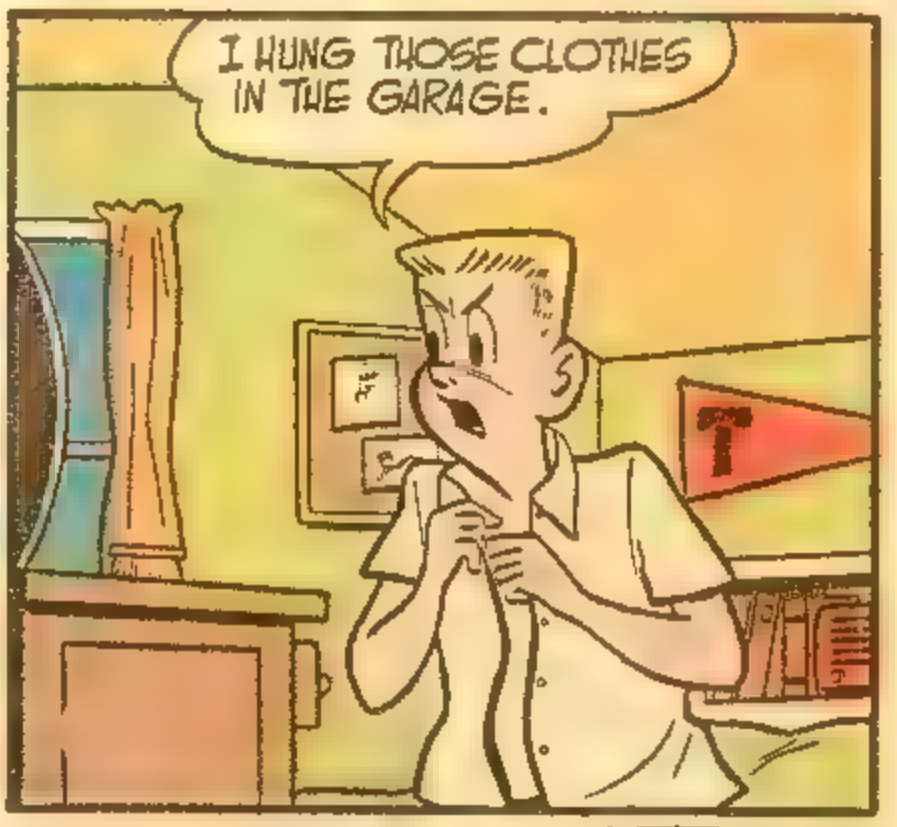
NGER

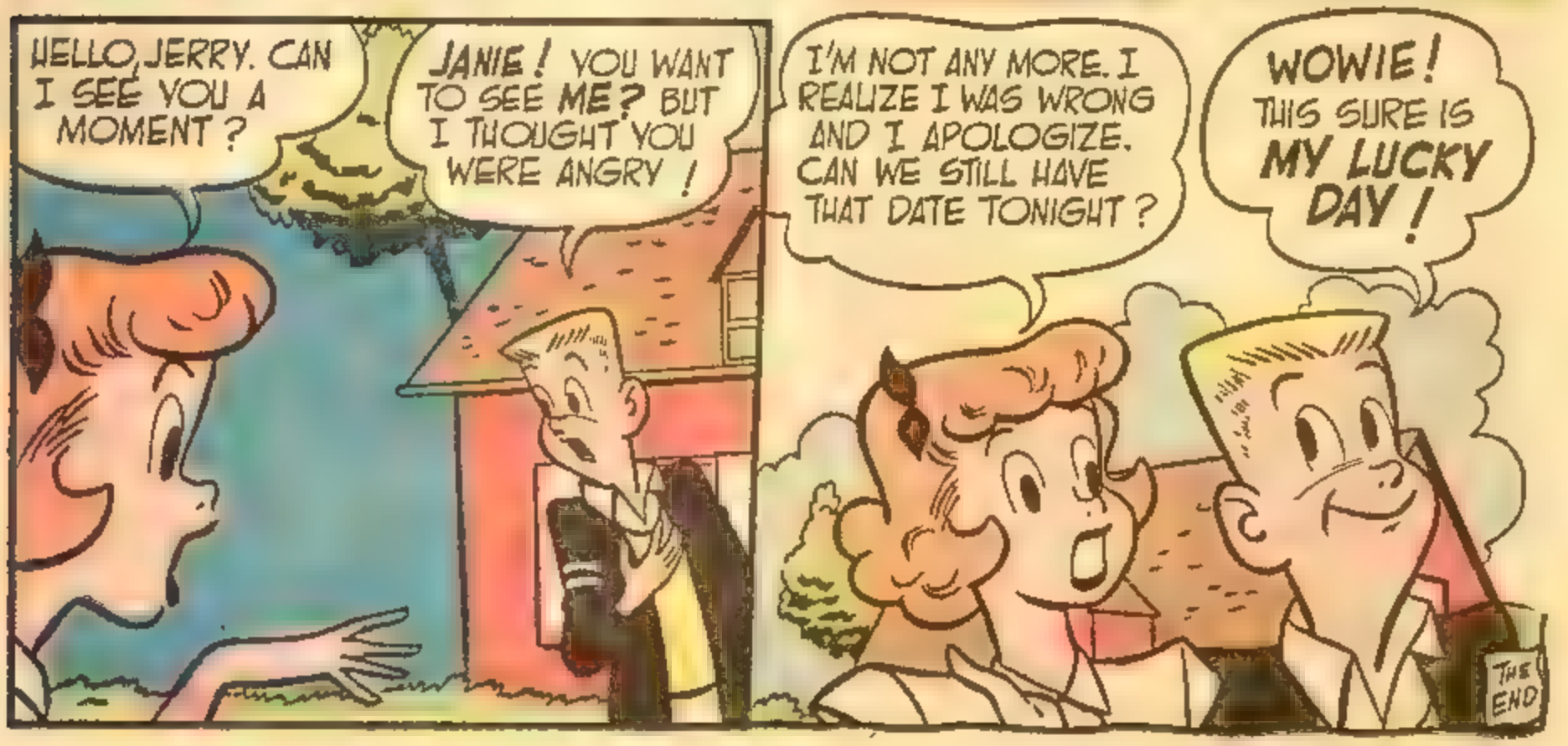

LOOK OUT!


SPLASH!

I YELLED 'LOOK OUT'! DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME?


GLUB THAT'S ADDING INSULT TO INJURY. "TODAY WILL BE MY LUCKY DAY." BAH!


I HUNG THOSE CLOTHES IN THE GARAGE.


HELLO, JERRY. CAN I SEE YOU A MOMENT?
JANIE! YOU WANT TO SEE ME? BUT I THOUGHT YOU WERE ANGRY!
I'M NOT ANY MORE. I REALIZE I WAS WRONG AND I APOLOGIZE. CAN WE STILL HAVE THAT DATE TONIGHT?
WOWIE! THIS SURE IS MY LUCKY DAY!
THE END

BURGLARS, BEWARE!

In the Duel Between Safe-Makers and Safe-Crackers, the Former Is Far Ahead

NO safe-cracker who ever lived is as famous as one who never lived. Jimmy Valentine is the immortal's name, and he existed only on stage as the hero of the play *Alias Jimmy Valentine*

In the play, Jimmy, an ex-con going straight, exposes his background as a safe-cracker when he saves the life of a little girl trapped in a bank vault. Before turning the dial of the combination lock, Jimmy sandpapers his fingertips to make them more sensitive to the clicks of the mechanism.

This bit of stage drama has been taken as the real McCoy by safecrackers everywhere.

Crooks managed to get into safes in other ways, however. Their struggle against the safe-makers has been called the most dramatic combat between honesty and dishonesty. Read on, and see what we mean.

For many thousands of years, safes were nothing more than wooden boxes with iron bands around them. Then followed a period of boxes made entirely of iron, locked by a padlock. Then, an Englishman by the name of Charles Chubb hit upon the idea of putting a door in an iron box, and using a handle-operated bolt to keep the door closed and a lock to keep the bolt in position.

But thieves were not backward. They kept up to date with the safe-makers. A famous robbery in England—the 1865 Cornhill robbery —pointed up this fact and forced the manufacturers to get on their toes.

Combination locks started to come into widespread use around this time, as a precaution against the stealing of the keys used in ordinary locks. The strings of figures which formed the combinations of the safes usually were divided up, and each part given to one man to memorize. Thus no one person knew the entire combination of a safe, and to open it at least two and sometimes three people had to be present. In 1876, in Quincy, Indiana, where this precaution was neglected, the crooks forced the combination from the one man who knew it, and stole over a million dollars from the local bank.

The dials of combination locks were at first placed on the doors of safes. This often led to the combination leaking out, when an employee peeked at the bank officers spinning the dial. As a result of one sensational case in 1869, in which the dial

was read from 18 feet away and as a result $2,550,000 was stolen, safe-manufacturers began putting dials in places where they could not be overseen. This trend has reached the point today where dials are read through periscopes and operated by remote-control wheels.

With the easy road to safebreaking blocked to them, safe-crackers turned to forcing methods. They used crowbars to pry open the doors. To bend out the door enough for the crowbar to fit in, many crooks had a set of thirty wedges ranging from a razor's thickness to the width of a man's hand.

To combat this, safe-makers made doors with bolts on all four sides and with dove-tailed shapes. Forcing was no longer any good. But the crooks were not long in coming up with a new idea—gunpowder!

They figured to blow the safe doors off their hinges by a very ingenious method. They used putty, an air pump, and a funnel of very fine gunpowder. A fuse was lit, and the gunpowder did the rest.

When safe manufacturers wised up to this deal, they started making doors fit so closely that grains of gunpowder could not enter. The thieves stayed one step ahead of them, however, when they began using liquid nitroglycerin. But nowadays safe doors fit so tightly that they will not close at all if a piece of paper is between the door and the jamb. Not even nitro can seep into that space!

Still burglars did not give up their fight. Along around 1920, the oxy-acetylene torch become well-known, and using it to burn a hole in safes, the crooks made off with considerable sums of money. Also better metal drills became available. These were used to make small holes in the safe door near the lock. The lock could then be picked quite easily.

To overcome both these devices, the safe-makers began using a special hardened steel which resisted both the drills and the torch.

And there the matter stands today. Only old, poorly-protected safes or vaults are burglarized. Modern vaults cannot be robbed. They are surrounded by reinforced concrete four to five feet thick with a six-inch super-hard steel lining. The tight-fitting doors are fifteen to forty steel inches thick. Three or four combination locks are often used on a single safe; all must be worked to open the door.

Time locks prevent the door from being opened untill a certain hour. Alarm systems are wired to electric eyes to see intruders, microphones to hear them, and wired floors to feel. Some safes even spray the crooks with tear gas while the cops are on the way!

But this is only one side of the safe story. We have been tracing the development of only burglar-proof safes. There are other safes which are built, not to resist robbers, but to withstand fire. These are used to keep valuable records.

These safes are constructed so that they can survive a fall from the upper story of a burning building and the crushing of falling masonry and girders. The most modern models can be put in a heat of 2100 degrees and left there for four hours with the temperature inside never rising above 350 degrees.

Modern safes are built strong. Nobody doubts that any more, since two American-made vaults were found amid the ruined buildings, in good condition, with their contents intact after the A-bomb blasted Hiroshima. The safe-makers feel that burglars will have to go quite a long way to beat the atom bomb!

—by David Kahn

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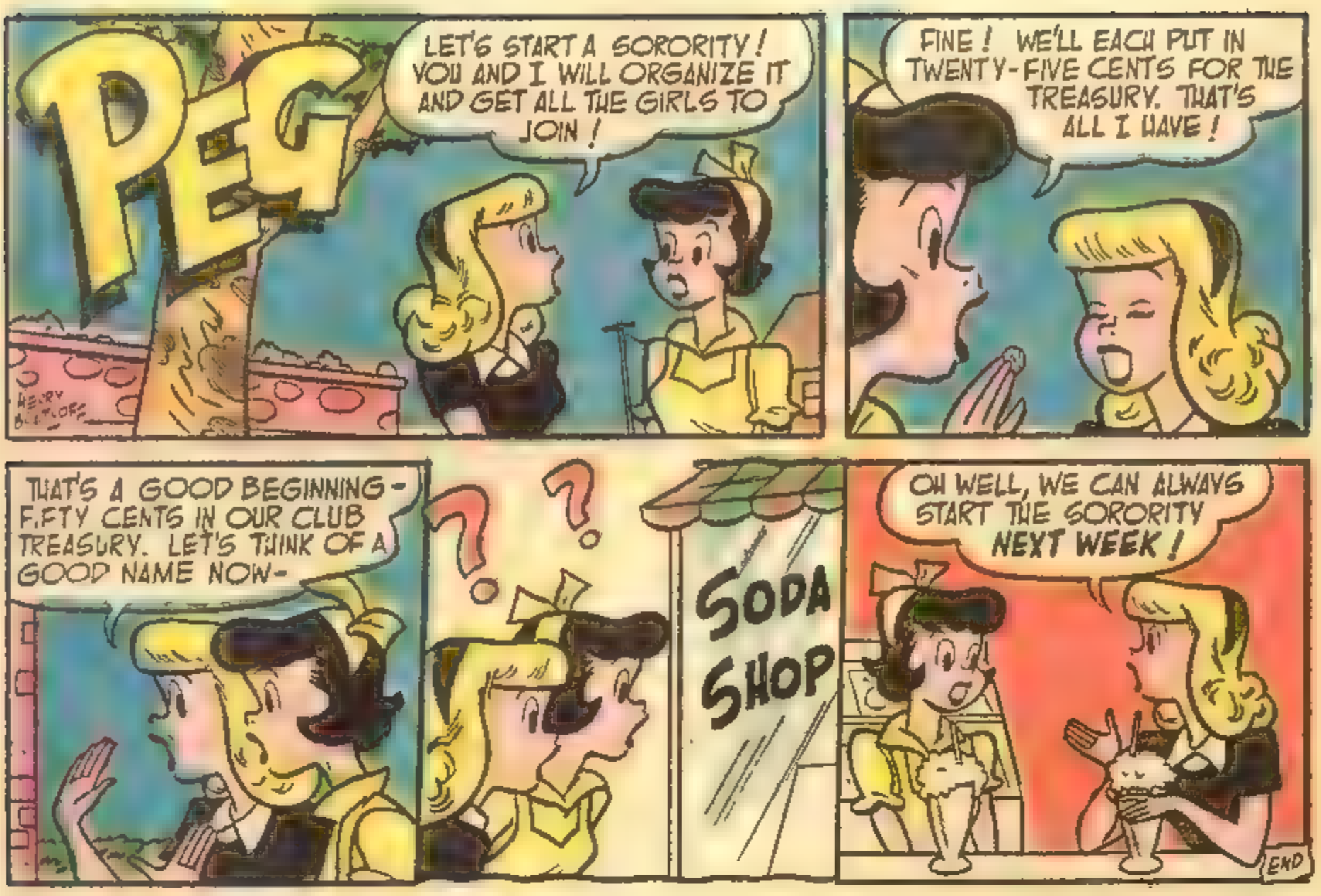
PEG
LET'S START A SORORITY! YOU AND I WILL ORGANIZE IT AND GET ALL THE GIRLS TO JOIN!
FINE! WE'LL EACH PUT IN TWENTY-FIVE CENTS FOR THE TREASURY. THAT'S ALL I HAVE!
THAT'S A GOOD BEGINNING- FIFTY CENTS IN OUR CLUB TREASURY. LET'S THINK OF A GOOD NAME NOW-
SODA SHOP
OH WELL, WE CAN ALWAYS START THE SORORITY NEXT WEEK!
END

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BATMAN AND ROBIN

The PARASOLS of PLUNDER

YES... IT'S TRUE! THAT FABULOUS BIRDMAN, THE PENGUIN, IS GIVING UP BIRDS! FOR ONE THING, HE'S TIRED OF BEING A JAIL-BIRD! BUT DOES THIS MEAN THE PENGUIN HAS REFORMED? WELL, HARDLY.. FOR DON'T FORGET THAT THE PENGUIN IS ALSO KNOWN AS "THE MAN OF 1,000 UMBRELLAS," AND WHEN HE SETS HIMSELF UP IN THE UMBRELLA BUSINESS, IT MEANS BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE TO TANGLE WITH...

BATMAN ENDORSES PENGUIN UMBRELLAS

BANK

BOB KANE

IN THE UMBRELLA-MAKING SHOP OF GOTHAM PENITENTIARY, A GUARD BRINGS A MESSAGE TO A PRISONER . THE PENGUIN HIMSELF, THAT GROTESQUE BIRD OF ILL-OMEN...

THE WARDEN WANTS TO SEE ME? JUST AS SOON AS I FINISH INSERTING A RIB IN THIS MASTERPIECE OF THE UMBRELLA-MAKER'S ART!

PRESENTLY, IN THE WARDEN'S OFFICE...

PENGUIN, YOU'VE BEEN A MODEL PRISONER, STARTING AN UMBRELLA SHOP FOR US AND SETTING AN EXAMPLE OF REAL INDUSTRY SO THE PAROLE BOARD IS RELEASING YOU...ON ONE CONDITION!

YOUR BIRD CRIMES PUT YOU BEHIND BARS, SO YOU MUST PROMISE TO GIVE UP KEEPING BIRDS! THEY'RE TOO MUCH OF A TEMPTATION FOR YOU!

WARDEN... I PROMISE TO GET RID OF EVERY BIRD I OWN!

AND SO, PRESENTLY, THE BALEFUL BIRDMAN ONCE AGAIN IS FREE AS A BIRD! SOMETIME LATER, IN AN ODD PENTHOUSE KNOWN AS THE PENGUIN'S ROOST..

LOOK HOW IT'S BREAKIN' THE BOSS'S HEART TO GET RID OF HIS PET BIRDS!

FAREWELL... FAREWELL! YOUR FREEDOM BRINGS ME MINE, MY FEATHERED ASSOCIATES! NEVER AGAIN SHALL WE TAUNT THE BATMAN WITH OUR DARING FORAYS IN CRIME!

WHILE ON THE ROOF OF A NEARBY BUILDING, TWO CAPED FIGURES GAZE GRIMLY AT THE SCENE...

HE'S RELEASING HIS BIRDS, JUST AS HE PROMISED THE PAROLE BOARD, BATMAN. MAYBE THE PENGUIN REALLY MEANS TO GO STRAIGHT!

IT'S A GOOD SIGN, ROBIN, BUT WE'LL KEEP OUR EYES ON HIM JUST THE SAME!

WILL THE PENGUIN REFORM? THE QUESTION IS ASKED EVEN BY HIS OWN HENCHMEN...

NOW I GET IT, PENGUIN! YOU LET THEM OTHER BIRDS OUT TO IMPRESS BATMAN WHOM YOU SPOTTED WATCHING YOU, BUT YOU'RE KEEPING THESE HERE VALUABLE BIRDS!

ONLY TO SELL THEM! I NEED FUNDS TO START MY NEW BUSINESS! REMEMBER, LEFTY... I'M ALSO KNOWN AS THE "MAN OF 1,000 UMBRELLAS!"

WHAT NEW BUSINESS DOES THE PENGUIN MEAN? SOME WEEKS LATER, AT THE HOME OF SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON.

FROM BIRDS TO UMBRELLAS! SEEMS THE PENGUINS DROPPED ONE OF HIS CRIME TECHNIQUES ONLY TO CONCENTRATE ON ANOTHER!

HMM... THE PAROLE BOARD DIDN'T SAY HE COULDN'T USE UMBRELLAS. IT MIGHT BE LEGITIMATE. STILL, BATMAN AND ROBIN OUGHT TO CHECK!

PENGUIN UMBRELLAS, INC., PLANS RECORD PRODUCTION AFTER REFORMED ARCH-CROOK MR. ACQUIRES PLANT

SO, LATER THAT DAY, IN A STREAMLINED PLANT.

SO... YOU'VE COME TO CHECK UP ON ME, EH? WELL, GO AHEAD! I'M PRODUCING THE FINEST UMBRELLA ON THE MARKET... WITH MORE STEEL THAN ANY OTHER BRAND! STRONG AND DURABLE!

AND NO TRICK UMBRELLAS I HOPE!

WHY, BATMAN... I'M AN HONEST BUSINESS MAN. FORMERLY KNOWN AS "THE MAN OF A THOUSAND UMBRELLAS," TODAY, I'M "THE MAN OF 50,000 UMBRELLAS"

HMM. THEY SEEM ALL RIGHT!

NO TRICK SWORDS, HIDDEN COMPARTMENTS, SECRET GADGETS. BUT WHO'LL BUY THESE AT $10, WHEN AJAX MAKES A SIMILAR UMBRELLA FOR $5?

THAT SHODDY COMPANY? THEIR UMBRELLA HASN'T HALF THE STEEL! I'LL SHOW YOU! HERE'S AN AJAX UMBRELLA, SEE!

WATCH OUT, BATMAN!

YOU'LL SEE. THIS AJAX PRODUCT IS AN INSULT TO THE INDUSTRY!

HUH?

BATMAN... I'LL SAVE YOU!

NO NEED! WITH THIS GENUINE PENGUIN UMBRELLA, I HOOKED IN MY BELT FOR EMERGENCY, WE CAN FLOAT SAFELY DOWN WITHOUT ASSISTANCE!

THERE, BATMAN! NOW... AFTER SEEING ME DEMONSTRATE THE OBVIOUS SUPERIORITY OF MY PRODUCT, I'M SURE YOU'LL BE GLAD TO PERSONALLY ENDORSE PENGUIN UMBRELLAS!

YOURS IS THE BETTER PRODUCT, ALL RIGHT!

BUT... I'M SORRY, PENGUIN. I *NEVER* GIVE ENDORSEMENTS!

WHAT? NOT EVEN TO HELP A REFORMED CRIMINAL START AN HONEST BUSINESS? NOT EVEN FOR ME... YOUR OLD ENEMY WHO HAS KNOWN YOU FOR YEARS? I'LL MAKE YOU ENDORSE MY PRODUCT! YOU'LL SEE!

YOU'RE SUNK, PENGUIN... WE'RE ALL SUNK... IF HE DON'T ENDORSE THEM UMBRELLAS, MAYBE YOU OUGHT TO GO BACK TO BIRDS!

NEVER GET DISCOURAGED SO EASILY, ROCKY! BATMAN WILL ENDORSE THOSE UMBRELLAS WHETHER HE'S WILLING OR NOT!

DOES THE PENGUIN REALLY MEAN WHAT HE SAYS? SEVERAL NIGHTS LATER, AT THE HOME OF BRUCE AND DICK...

GOTHAM DAILY

PENGUIN UMBRELLAS REACH 50,000 PRODUCTION MARK!

WELL... WITH THAT MANY UMBRELLAS FOR SALE, I GUESS THE PENGUIN REALLY MEANS TO GO STRAIGHT!

STILL, HOW DOES HE EXPECT TO SELL THEM? THAT THREAT HE MADE ABOUT GETTING BATMAN TO ENDORSE HIS PRODUCT, I WONDER...

DO YOUR SUPPOSING LATER! THERE'S THE BAT-SIGNAL! TIME FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN TO GO INTO ACTION!

I WONDER WHAT IT CAN BE THIS TIME?

AND AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN THE PENGUIN'S ROOST...

GOOD! NOW GET ON THE PHONE AND NOTIFY THE NEWSPAPERS TO SEND REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS TO 4TH AND VINE IN AN HOUR IF THEY WANT A GREAT STORY!

THERE IT IS, BOSS. THE BAT-SIGNAL!

SHORTLY AFTER, IN THE OFFICE OF POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON...

MR. RINK, HERE, IS NIGHT WATCHMAN OF THE COLE BANK BUILDING. FOR 3 NIGHTS RUNNING, HE'S SEEN A MYSTERIOUS HELICOPTER LOWER A MASKED FIGURE TO THE ROOF IN AN ADJOINING BUILDING. BUT THERE'S BEEN NO ROBBERY...NOTHING!

ALL WE FOUND WERE FOOTPRINTS ON THE ROOF AND THIS OUTLINE OF THE BAT-SIGNAL SCRATCHED IN THE TAR! HAVE YOU ANY IDEA WHAT'S BEHIND IT?

MAYBE SOMEONE'S TRYING TO CONTACT ME SECRETLY. ANYWAY... THERE'S ONE WAY OF FINDING OUT!

THAT NIGHT, AS A PAIR OF CAPED FIGURES CROUCH IN THE SHADOWS OF THE ROOF...

THE HELICOPTER! AND THERE'S A CORD DANGLING FROM IT! KEEP THE BATPLANE WARMED UP WHILE I CLIMB THE ROPE TO MEET WHOEVER'S SUPPOSED TO COME DOWN!

I'LL BE READY... JUST IN CASE SOMEONE'S COOKED UP A CRUDE TRAP!

AS THE DANGLING ROPE SWEEPS CLOSER...

HMM... NO ONE'S COMING DOWN ...AND THE HELICOPTER'S MOVING AWAY. THEY COULDN'T HAVE SPOTTED THE BATPLANE IN THIS DARKNESS!

I'LL SEE WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT!

BUT SUDDENLY, AS THE BATMAN DRAWS CLOSE TO THE UNDERBELLY OF THE HELICOPTER...

S-SOMEONE'S LOOSENED THE ROPE! IT WAS A PLOT TO DROP ME TWENTY-FIVE STORIES TO THE STREET! BUT... HERE COMES ROBIN IN THE BATPLANE... READY TO CATCH ME IN TIME!

BUT AS ROBIN PREPARES TO MANEUVER THE [redacted] BENEATH HIS FALLING COMPANION, HE MAKES A CHILLING DISCOVERY...

GREAT SCOTT! THEY DROPPED BATMAN OVER THE ONE STREET IN THIS WHOLE AREA THAT'S TOO NARROW FOR THE BATPLANE TO PASS THROUGH! IT...IT WAS THE ONE THING WE OVERLOOKED! I...I CAN'T SAVE HIM! IT...IT'S (CHOKE) THE END OF BATMAN!

THEN, JUST AS BATMAN SEEMS ABOUT TO PLUMMET TO CERTAIN DEATH...

LOOK! IT'S BATMAN... AND... AND HE'S SAVED! THERE'S AN UMBRELLA OPENING UP LIKE A PARACHUTE AND CHECKING HIS FALL!

WILTON

MOD RD

WHAT A PICTURE THIS'LL BE! PERFECT! PRETTY NERVY STUNT, BATMAN, TO ENDORSE THE PENGUIN'S UMBRELLA LIKE THAT!

HUH? I'M NOT ENDORSING ANYTHING!

BUT THEN, AS BATMAN TURNS THE UMBRELLA AROUND...

HUH? LUMINOUS LETTERS! SO THE PENGUIN'S MADE ME ENDORSE HIS PRODUCT AFTER ALL! BECAUSE I CAN'T POSSIBLY KEEP THE PAPERS FROM PRINTING THESE PICTURES!

BATMAN STARTS HIS LIFT ON THE QUALITY OF PENGUIN UMBRELLAS

NEXT MORNING, AS ALFRED THE BUTLER SERVES BREAKFAST IN THE WAYNE HOUSEHOLD...

THE FINANCIAL JOURNAL

ADVERTISEMENT

SOMEONE STEALING HIS LIFT ON THE QUALITY OF PENGUIN UMBRELLAS

LIKE BATMAN, YOU TOO CAN DEPEND ON A **PENGUIN UMBRELLA!** LIKE BATMAN, IT'S TOUGH, INDESTRUCTIBLE!

MY WORD, MAWSTER BRUCE. ...YOUR NAME'S BEING USED BY THAT HORRID PENGUIN PERSON IN A FULL PAGE AD IN THE *FINANCIAL JOURNAL!*

ER... YES... ER... COME TO THINK OF IT, THAT REMINDS ME. I'VE AN IMPORTANT BUSINESS APPOINTMENT IN THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT. CARE TO COME ALONG, DICK?

YES... YOU KNOW I'M INTERESTED IN "FINANCE"!

PRESENTLY, AS THEY LEAVE THE HOUSE...

YOU THINK THE PENGUIN MAY BE UP TO SOMETHING?

ADVERTISING IN THE *FINANCIAL JOURNAL*... MAYBE HE'S JUST AFTER A RICH CLIENTELE, BUT WITH THE PENGUIN, IT'S BEST TO TAKE NO CHANCES. SO, LET'S PUT IN A DAY AT MY OFFICE, IN CASE BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE NEEDED!

BUT, IN THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT, THE DAY PASSES WITHOUT MISHAP, AND AS DICK, BRUCE AND A BUSINESS PARTNER PREPARE TO LEAVE THE OFFICE...

IT'S STARTING TO RAIN. BUT SINCE I BOUGHT TWO OF THESE WONDERFUL PENGUIN UMBRELLAS THIS MORNING, BEFORE THEY WERE ALL SNATCHED UP, I CAN LEND YOU ONE, BRUCE!

ER... UH... THANKS...

AND SO, ONTO A STREET FILLED WITH PENGUIN UMBRELLAS AS A RESULT OF BATMAN'S ENDORSEMENT COUPLED WITH THE THREAT OF RAIN ..

THE PENGUIN SURE DID ALL RIGHT USING BATMAN IN HIS AD!

SAY, BRUCE... MY WATCH IS OFF. HAVE YOU THE TIME?

THAT'S ODD! MY WATCH IS OFF, TOO!

I SAY .. HAVE YOU THE TIME?

WHY MY WATCH SEEMS TO BE ON THE BLINK!

THE TIME? EXACTLY 4:30!

SAY EVERYONE'S WATCH IS OUT OF ORDER EXCEPT THAT FELLOW WITHOUT AN UMBRELLA! COULD THE STEEL IN THESE UMBRELLAS AFFECT A WATCH?

ONLY IF THE STEEL WERE MAGNETIZED! WHICH IT IS! LOOK HOW MINE STICKS TO THIS STEEL GRATING!

MAGNETIZED? BUT WHAT FOR?

I DON'T KNOW... BUT YOU CAN BE SURE THE PENGUIN HAS A REASON. WITH ALL THESE MAGNETIZED UMBRELLAS FLOATING AROUND THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT, WE'D BETTER BE PREPARED TO NIP WHATEVER HE'S UP TO!

I..I D-DON'T DARE! IT...IT'S TOO FAR TO THE G-GROUND!

LET GO YOUR UMBRELLA!

AND SO AS THE PAIR SETS AS DE THEIR UMBRELLAS IN A NEARBY DOORWAY AND START TO SWITCH TO BATMAN AND ROBIN...

HELP!

GREAT SCOTT! LOOK! THAT STAINLESS STEEL STATUE IS DRAWING ALL THE MAGNETIZED UMBRELLAS!

AND THE PEOPLE HOLDING THEM TOO!

THROW DOWN YOUR WALLETS AND YOUR BRIEFCASES OR I'LL SIGNAL MY MAN TO CUT THE CURRENT MAGNETIZING THAT STATUE AND YOU'LL ALL COME CRASHING DOWN TO THE STREET!

AND AS THE TERRIFIED VICTIMS COMPLY

TUM--TEE--TUM...THIS IS WHAT COMES OF SAVING UMBRELLAS FOR A RAINY DAY! THOUSANDS IN CASH AND SECURITIES RAINING DOWN ON ME! HAVE TO MOVE FAST THOUGH, BEFORE THE COPS ARRIVE!

BUT SUDDENLY...

BUT EVEN INTO YOUR LIFE, PENGUIN, A LITTLE RAIN MUST FALL!

HUH? WHO INVITED YOU TWO?

THIS IS MY PARTY... AND IT'S GOING TO STAY THAT WAY! EVEN IF I HAVE TO MOVE IT SOMEWHERE ELSE!

OOF!

STEP ON IT! THERE'S PROBABLY A MILLION COPS RIGHT BEHIND THEM!

ROBIN! THEY'VE GOT ROBIN! BUT...I'VE GOT TO GET THESE PEOPLE DOWN BEFORE GIVING CHASE! THAT CONVERTIBLE OVER THERE... IT SHOULD DO THE TRICK...

SWIFTLY, BATMAN DRIVES A PARKED CAR DIRECTLY UNDER THE STATUE AND...

LET GO YOUR UMBRELLAS AND JUMP FOR THE ROOF OF THIS CAR! IT'LL BREAK YOUR FALL!

HAVING ARRANGED FOR THE SAFETY OF THE PENGUIN'S VICTIMS, BATMAN BORROWS ANOTHER CAR TO SPEED AFTER THE FLEEING ARCH-CROOK...

IT'S BATMAN! HE'S GAINING ON US! WE'LL HAVE TO DROP OUR EXCESS BAGGAGE TO GET RID OF HIM!

R-ROBIN!

WITH SPLIT SECOND TIMING, BATMAN APPLIES THE BRAKES AS HE HURLS THE BATARANG TOWARD HIS FALLING COMPANION...

GOT HIM!

A MOMENT LATER...

SORRY BATMAN.. IF I HADN'T GOTTEN CAUGHT SO EASILY, THE PENGUIN MAY NOT HAVE GOTTEN AWAY!

NEVER MIND! WE'LL TRACK HIM DOWN IF IT TAKES A YEAR!

STACY'S

LATER, IN A PLANE, SPEEDING TOWARD AN UNKNOWN DESTINATION...

HOW ABOUT TELLING US WHAT'S NEXT, PENGUIN? WOULDN'T IT BE A GOOD IDEA TO GO BACK TO BIRDS NOW THAT BATMAN'S PRACTICALLY FORCED US OUTA THE UMBRELLA BUSINESS?

WHY, MY DEAR ROCKY, WE'RE ONLY JUST STARTING IN THE UMBRELLA BUSINESS!

WHILE AT THE PENGUIN'S ABANDONED UMBRELLA PLANT..

FROM THESE FILES, IT SEEMS THE PENGUIN MADE ONLY ONE BATCH OF BEACH UMBRELLAS! AND SINCE HE MUST HAVE HAD A SPECIAL USE FOR THEM, WE MAY LEARN WHERE HE'LL STRIKE NEXT BY CHECKING WHERE THESE UMBRELLAS WERE SHIPPED AT THE LOCAL FREIGHT OFFICE...

ONE WEEK LATER... AND MANY MILES DISTANT, AT OASIS ISLAND BEACH, A CARIBBEAN RETREAT, FREQUENTED BY THE VERY RICH...

NOW TO GET THIS FIRST BATCH OF UMBRELLAS SET UP IN THESE PLACES WE PREPARED LAST NIGHT.. SO OUR "MEMBERS" KNOW WHERE TO FIND US!

AND EACH "MEMBER" KNOWS WHERE TO SET UP HIS UMBRELLA! WHAT A SCHEME!

OASIS BEACH CLUB

UMBRELLA CLUB MEMBERS ONLY

I SAY .. HOW MUCH DO YOU CHARGE FOR UMBRELLAS, MISTER?

CAN'T YOU READ FRIEND? THESE ARE FOR MEMBERS ONLY! AND NO NEW MEMBERSHIP CARDS ARE BEING SOLD THIS SEASON!

AND WHO ARE THESE "MEMBERS"? SOMEWHAT LATER, DOWN THE BEACH...

SET DOWN DA VALISE WITH THE TOOLS...ER...THE LUNCH, AN' GIMME A HAND WITH THIS UMBRELLA!

WHAT RIFF-RAFF! TOO BAD THE BEACH CLUB CAN'T KEEP THEM OFF THE BEACH!

PRESENTLY...

BUSINESS HAS BEEN BRISK, DUKE. ALL THE MEMBERS SHOWED UP AS SCHEDULED...ONE AT A TIME...TO LULL THE SUSPICIONS OF THE BEACH CLUB GUARDS!

WE'RE READY TO MOVE WHENEVER YOU TURN THE SWITCH, PENGUIN!

AT THAT MOMENT, CIRCLING HIGH OVERHEAD WITH ITS MOTORS CUT...THE BATPLANE!

CHECKING THAT FREIGHT SHIPMENT LED US TO THE RIGHT PLACE, ROBIN! IT'S THE PENGUIN!

DO WE WAIT TO SEE WHAT HE'S UP TO...OR MOVE IN TO GRAB HIM NOW?

WHERE THE PENGUIN IS INVOLVED, THE LESS WAITING THE BETTER!

PENGUIN CLUB

THE BATPLANE! THEY'VE TRAILED US HERE! BATMAN AND ROBIN! NO SENSE WAITING FOR THE BEACH CLUB TO FILL UP WITH MORE IDLE RICH! WE'LL STRIKE NOW AND PREVENT THE BATPLANE FROM LANDING! HERE GOES!

As the switch is closed, the Penguin's umbrellas, spotted along the beach, begin to spin...

Great Scott! Those umbrellas must be set into motors buried in the sand! They're kicking up a dust storm that's quickly getting so thick, we won't be able to see where we're landing, without possibly injuring someone!

And as the dust storm increases in tempo, the Penguin and his men, protected by masks, close in on the beach club...

Quick, men... with a sand umbrella to cover us from the batplane, looting the beach club while the guards are too blinded to stop us, should only take a few moments!

I'm heading for those clouds, Robin! It's our one chance! With the help of the silver iodide we're carrying, we'll be able to use rain as a protection against umbrellas!

Keep pouring every last bit of that silver iodide from this plane! I want it to pour!

Cloud seeding... a chemical way of forcing the clouds to release their moisture in the form of rain! And as the sudden downpour reaches the Penguin's dust-storm...

The rain's wet down the sand so it doesn't blow! Oh-oh! Foul weather! The guards now have the advantage! They can see!

JAIL & BEACH

BUT THE WILY PENGUIN IS ALWAYS A FAST MAN FOR A GETAWAY...

ANY PORT IN A STORM... EVEN IF IT'S ONLY A ROWBOAT. WITH THIS STIFF BREEZE, I'LL BE GONE BEFORE THEY CAN GET A LAUNCH OUT TO PURSUE ME!

WHILE ABOVE...

WHAT A TIME TO GO FISHING, BATMAN!

WHY RISK OUR NECKS TRYING TO GRAB THE PENGUIN BY DROPPING ON HIM FROM THE BATPLANE ROPE LADDER, WHEN WE CAN USE SOME OF THE PENGUIN'S OLD METHODS TO HELP US!

A MOMENT LATER...

BUT... I DON'T GET IT... WHY BOMBARD HIM WITH FISH?

WATCH AND SEE WHEN HE PASSES THAT SANDBAR IN ANOTHER MOMENT

SEAGULLS! BIRDS! BIRDS! BIRDS! THEY'LL DROWN ME! THEY'RE SWAMPING THE BOAT. HELP!

ALL RIGHT, PENGUIN, YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG FEATHERS TO BE WITH THESE BIRDS... SO WE'RE TAKING YOU BACK WHERE YOU BELONG... AMONG THE JAILBIRDS!

AND TO THINK THAT I GAVE UP BIRDS! HOW HUMILIATING!

NEXT DAY, IN THE WARDEN'S OFFICE AT GOTHAM PENITENTIARY...

GLAD TO HAVE YOU BACK PENGUIN! OUR UMBRELLA SHOP HASN'T BEEN THE SAME SINCE YOU LEFT!

NO-NO-NO! UMBRELLAS BIRDS... THEY'RE THE BANE OF MY LIFE! JUST THROW ME INTO SOLITARY CONFINEMENT AND LET ME BANG MY HEAD AGAINST THE WALL! I LEARN THAT *YOU CAN'T BEAT THE LAW!*

THE END

QUICK QUIZ

DOES AIR HAVE WEIGHT?

YES! THIS IS PROVED BY FIRST WEIGHING AN ELECTRIC BULB. THEN, INSERT A SMALL HOLE IN THE BULB TO ALLOW AIR TO FILL THE VACUUM. A SECOND WEIGHING SHOWS THE BULB NOW WEIGHS MORE BECAUSE OF THE AIR'S ADDED WEIGHT!!

DID RICE ORIGINATE IN CHINA?

NO! RICE WAS FIRST GROWN IN INDIA...MORE THAN 5000 YEARS AGO

WHAT ARE MINERALS.... MORE VALUABLE THAN **GOLD**?

BERYLLIUM...PLATINUM... RADIUM... PALLADIUM...OSMIUM... IRIDIUM... AND VANADIUM... ARE ALL MORE **VALUABLE** THAN GOLD!

IS THE POPULAR PHRASE "QUIET AS A MOUSE".... ACCURATE?

NO! SCIENTISTS DECLARE THAT MICE ARE NOTORIOUSLY **NOISY** CREATURES THAT SPEND HOURS ROLLING PEBBLES ALONG A FLOOR MERELY TO ENJOY THE CLATTER!

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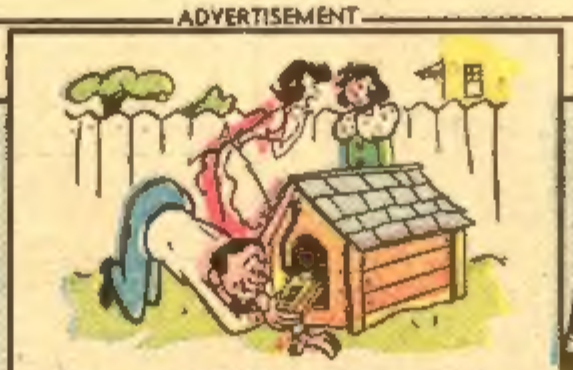

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ACT NOW

BOYS - GIRLS
LADIES - MEN

BE FIRST

57th YEAR

Mail Coupon

Act Now

Pocket Watches, Wrist Watches (sent postage paid). Boys-Girls Bicycles (sent express charges collect). Other Premiums or Cash Commission now easily yours. SIMPLY GIVE pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE sold at 25 cents a box (with picture) and remit per catalog sent with starting order postage paid by us. Write or mail coupon today. Wilson Chem. Co., Dept. L-115, Tyrone, Pa.

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Ladies - Mail
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WE TRUST YOU

Mail

OUR 57th YEAR

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GIVEN - Premiums - Cash

57th YEAR

ACT NOW

BOYS - GIRLS
LADIES - MEN

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MAIL COUPON TODAY

Wilson Chem. Co., Dept. N-115, Tyrone, Pa. Date.....

Gentlemen:—Please send me on trial 14 colorful art pictures with 14 boxes of White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE to sell at 25c a box (with picture). I will remit amount within 30 days, select a Premium or keep Cash Commission as fully explained under Premium wanted in catalog sent with my order postage paid to start.

Name ..... Age.....

St. ..... R.D..... Box.....

Town ..... Zone No..... State.....

Print LAST Name Here

Paste on a postal card or mail in an envelope NOW

COPY THIS GIRL

Draw Me

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Draw the girl and try for a prize! Find out if you have profitable art talent. You've nothing to lose—*everything to gain*. Mail your drawing today!

ART INSTRUCTION, INC., Dept. 2502
500 S. 4th St., Minneapolis 15, Minn.

Please enter my attached drawing in your March drawing contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name_____

Address_____ Zone____ County_____

City_____ Phone_____

State_____ Age_____

Occupation_____

Amateurs Only! Our students not eligible. Make copy of girl 5 inches high. Pencil or pen only. Omit the lettering. All drawings must be received by March 31, 1952. None returned. Winners notified.

Latest Winner List! Free course winners in previous contest—from list just released: P. Allen, P.O. Box 1092, New London, Conn.; Mrs. C. Fultz, 740 N. Richmond, Tulsa, Okla.; Mrs. D. Arnold, Wellpinit, Wash.; Miss M. Deneke, 146 E. Main, Fredericktown, Mo.; P. Scott, 14 Stuyvesant Oval, New York, N. Y.

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